

Hafa Adai!

PSS employees undergo training on preparing for a crisis. **PAGE 2**

Air Force lays out 4 scenarios in Global Futures Report. **PAGE 6**

\$1

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No judge again for Torres' case

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

The pending criminal case against former governor Ralph DLG Torres is once again left without a judge to hear it after

Superior Court judge pro tem Alberto Tolentino recused himself from the case.



Tolentino

Tolentino issued yesterday what's referred to as a *sua sponte* order recusing himself from the case. He did not elaborate but noted that the recusal is due to ongoing health issues.

Sua sponte essentially See **JUDGE** on Page 4

'18 land claims for a total of \$28M so far, but no funding for payment'

» **DPL, OAG reviewing 5 land leases: Coral Ocean Resort, Brilliant Star, Triple Star, Kanoa Resort, former Rudolph's Bar**



Santos

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

To date, there are three active land claims on Rota and 15 land claims on Saipan, equivalent to approximately \$28 million in total claims, yet there is no funding available at this time to pay

See **LAND** on Page 4



Legislature OKs budget revisions

Amelia Shai, the special assistant for programs and legislative review, looks at a copy of the budget revision bill that the Legislature's assistant sergeant-at-arms Wilbrandon Aguon Jr. handed her at the Governor's Office yesterday at 2:31pm.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Legislature passed during

separate emergency sessions yesterday afternoon a bill that would revise the budget for government's operations for fiscal year 2023.

The Senate and House of Representatives unanimously

approved during their respective emergency sessions the final product of the bipartisan conference committee, which was tasked to hammer out their differences on the legislation.

See **BUDGET** on Page 4

Fatal Hawaii shooting shows dangers of cockfights

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU (AP)—Police in Hawaii have vowed to step

up illegal gambling enforcement after one of the most serious shootings in state history called attention to the dangers that come with cockfighting.

See **FATAL** on Page 4

EXPANDED ACCESS TO SERVICES

The Sexual Assault Response Team held a news briefing yesterday at the Saipan World Resort in Susupe to talk about the services that are available for victims and survivors of sexual assault and abuse. The team also explained that they are seeking to not only expand, but also increase access to these services for all survivors and victims.

CHRYSTAL MARINO



INSIDE



BUSINESS

CNMI Women's Association is continuing its support of women-owned and co-owned businesses.

PAGE 11



ASIA

The United Nations is getting ready to take the decision to pull out of Afghanistan in May.

PAGE 13



LIFE & STYLE

Netflix is poised to shut down the DVD-by-mail service and plans to mail its last discs on Sept. 29.

PAGE 15



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GOT A NEWS TIP?

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Local

PSS employees undergo training on preparing for a crisis

The CNMI Public School System's Mental Health Project HALIGI AWARE recently held a workshop for over 80 school counselors, principals, and administrative staff to better prepare them for catastrophic and disastrous crises and events.

The workshop, called NASP PREPaRE Workshop 1 and 2, 3rd Edition, was held on April 11-13, 2023, and was presented by a team that included Frank Lee Borja, Janice Muña, Dr. Bobby James A. Cruz, Bonny Grow, Audrey King, and Dr. Jennifer Maratita.

During the three-day work-

shop, the attendees were introduced to the PREPaRE model, a plan that includes five areas of preparedness: prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery. It is designed to align with best practices specific for schools in times of crises, and is conducted in collaboration with the Department of Education, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The workshop also emphasized the importance of having a comprehensive approach within the Incident Command System to respond



PSS Mental Health Project HALIGI AWARE conducts a three-Day NASP PREPaRE Workshops to enhance crisis preparedness in the CNMI Public School System.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

to multiple emergencies.

The PREPaRE workshop adopts a trauma-informed response to crisis scenarios specific to the unique needs of each school.

Borja, PSS Mental Health LEA community manager, emphasized the importance of establishing and sustaining comprehensive school safety, crisis prevention, and preparedness with a focus on balancing physical and psychological safety.

Workshop participants found the training beneficial. Elvielynn S. Calvo, a school counselor, said the training increased her knowledge and skills, "equipping me with

evidence-based strategies to provide appropriate services to students, teachers, and families who have experienced trauma. Additionally, the group discussions and tabletop exercises allowed me to learn from my colleagues and grow collaboratively as a professional."

The attendees were trained on the different steps of the PREPaRE model, which included prevention and preparedness for crises, reaffirmation of physical health and welfare, evaluation of psychological trauma risks, delivery of crisis interventions, targeted response of mental health needs, and

examination of the effectiveness of crisis preparedness.

The trainers also discussed vulnerability assessments and functional annexes such as security, lockdown, evacuation, communication and family reunification. Participants learned about the importance of multidisciplinary teams, collaboration with partners and value of practice through orientations, drills, and tabletop exercises.

Kagman High School principal Ben Jones said the training is a proven framework that he plans to continue to implement into the KHS Emergency Operation Plan. "Having meaningful tabletop exercises

and conducting drills is one way we can implement the PREPaRE strategies. A quote that I try to live by is 'plan your practice, practice your plan.'"

PREPaRE authors shared that, while school crisis prevention should always be the goal, it must be acknowledged that it is just a matter of time before all schools need to respond to crises. Further, recent events have reminded us that school associated crises can quickly overwhelm available resources. The NASP PREPaRE curriculum provides guidance on how to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond, and recover from crisis events. (PR)

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PET OF THE WEEK

Maia



Meet Maia, a playful puppy who is eagerly awaiting her forever home! She is approximately 4 to 5 months old and is full of energy and loves to explore, and she has a unique personality that will surely steal your heart.

Maia is a fluffy, black and tan mixed breed puppy with soulful brown eyes and classic bonnie ears. She is a curious and adventurous pup who loves to investigate her surroundings. Maia is always up for playtime and enjoys chasing toys and playing with her siblings. She is also a quick learner and is eager to please, making her an ideal candidate for training.

She is in good health and has received her initial vaccinations. She is also on track with her potty training, although she and her siblings may still need some reinforcement and guidance as they continue to grow and develop. She will require regular veterinary care, including vaccinations, spaying, and ongoing preventative care, to ensure her lifelong health and happiness.

As with any puppy, it's important to consider the commitment and responsibility that comes with pet ownership. Puppies require time, patience, and training to become well-adjusted and obedient adult dogs. Potential adopters should be prepared to provide a safe and loving environment, plenty of exercise and mental stimulation, and ongoing veterinary care for these precious puppies.

If you're interested in adopting Maia, contact the Saipan Mayor's Office Animal Shelter in As Perdido for more information as they are currently with a foster family. Adopting a puppy is a rewarding experience that will bring joy and companionship to your life for years to come, and Maia is eager to become a cherished member of her new family. Don't miss out on the opportunity to welcome this cute puppy into your heart and home!

Shelter hours are from Monday to Friday, 7:30am

to 4:30pm. Contact them at (670)-234-3647 (DOGS). You can also make your way to the shelter to check

out more dogs available for adoption! ■■■

Saipan Tribune is partnering

with Lauren Cabrera, founder of the Saipan Humane Society, in collaboration with the Saipan Mayor's Office

Animal Shelter in As Perdido, to feature their adoptable dogs into loving homes. Whether you are looking for

a guard dog, lap dog, hiking buddy, or playful puppy, they most likely have the dog for you!

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Saipan municipal council building to be built by March 2024

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

A modern building that will house both the Saipan Mayor's Office and the Saipan and Northern Island Municipal Council is set to be built by March 2024 in Chalan Kanoa next to the U.S. Postal Service.

The new building, which will cost almost \$1 million to build, will occupy 5,000 square meters on a lot on the east side of the U.S. Postal Service.

This was learned in a press conference yesterday morning at the Saipan and Northern Islands Leadership Kiosku Courtyard across the U.S. Postal Service, which was at-

tended by Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, some members of the CNMI Legislature, contractors, and others. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho were not present.

Members of the 17th Saipan Municipal Council—Marian Deleon Guerrero Tudela, Antonia M. Tudela,

and Carmen C. Pangelinan—also unveiled an artist's rendition of the proposed building.

Currently, the 17th Saipan Municipal Council does not have an office nor a building and holds their meetings temporarily at the Kiosku Courtyard.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency allocated \$500,000 for the project, with the funding matched by the local government. Bidding proposals to contractors will be opened soon.

The project has been in the works since 2015, but was halted due to

previous typhoons. After almost 10 years and several failed bids later, the project will now resume.

"We need [the new building]. It's about time that we should have one," said council chair Marian Deleon Guerrero Tudela.

Apatang is thankful that the project is finally pushing forward. "That's always been my dream to make sure that we have a building that can house the Mayor's Office and the [Municipal Council] and this is the right place—Chalan Kanoa is the capital of Saipan and this is where the mayor is supposed to be."

FATAL

From Page 1

which has deep roots in the islands and remains popular despite being illegal.

The shooting early Saturday in a rural community more than 30 miles (48 kilometers) from downtown Honolulu left a man and woman dead and three others with gunshot wounds. The Honolulu medical examiner's office as of Tuesday had yet to release the names of the dead—both of whom were taken in private cars to a hospital—and police had yet to make any arrests but said they

were searching for two suspects.

Authorities say investigating cock-fights is difficult in part because they are highly organized events on private property and their illegal nature and the large amount of money wagered means they often have links to organized crime. The clandestine fights happen all over Hawaii, usually on large, remote properties shrouded by brush and accessible only by dirt roads, like in Waianae, where the weekend shooting took place.

"Neighbors are also reluctant to get involved for fear of retaliation," Honolulu Police Chief Joe Logan said in a statement.

Despite being illegal in Hawaii

since 1884, the fights between roosters with blades affixed to their legs have remained a part of life in the islands, especially among the state's large population of Filipinos, who are credited with bringing the practice from the Philippines, where it was introduced by Spaniards. Many cock-fighting fans claim the blood sport is part of local Hawaii culture.

"People that are attendees are local, locally based, and have been doing it for generations," said former Maui police chief Gary Yabuta, now executive director of the Hawaii High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area. "A saying among chicken fighters is, 'It's in my blood.'"

LAND

From Page 1

these claims, according to acting Department of Public Lands secretary Teresita A. Santos.

She also shared that the Office of the Attorney General is still reviewing five land leases: Coral Ocean Resort, Brilliant Star, Triple Star, Kanoa Resort, and 153 (former Rudolpho's Bar).

Information about the land claims and land leases were among the topics that Santos shared during her recent confirmation hearing before the Senate Executive Appointments and Government Investigations Committee. The committee report on March 30 recommended Santos' confirmation to serve as DPL secretary.

The report, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune* Tuesday, determined that, based on the overall assessment of Santos' credentials, experiences, testimonies, goals for the agency, and other related issues, the committee is convinced that the appointee has the qualifications and leadership skills necessary to serve as

DPL secretary.

The committee received 11 written testimonies and nine oral testimonies supporting Santos. It received no written or oral testimonies opposing her appointment.

With respect to the \$28 million land claims, according to the committee report, Santos stated that there is no funding available at this time for payment of these claims until such time that the Legislature can appropriate funding for monetary compensation.

Santos said the three active land claims on Rota have a total amount of approximately \$2 million in land compensation, while the 15 land exchanges on Saipan are worth a total of \$26 million.

She said there is no land compensation or land exchange for the island of Tinian.

Santos said when DPL disseminates letters to private landowners regarding land claims, an option is made available to the private landowner to select land compensation or land exchange.

The acting secretary clarified that DPL does not distribute the funds ap-

propriated for land compensation.

As to the question of who keeps track of land compensation monies, Santos explained that since the department does not appropriate the funds, they do not have that record. She said DPL, however, does have a record of the land claims consummated by the department.

On land leases, Santos said the renewal of the land leases of Coral Ocean Resort and Brilliant Star require legislative approval of both the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Kanoa Resort lease, on the other hand, does not require legislative approval as the public land lease is less than five hectares, she said. That lease is currently under OAG review.

Santos said she is unaware whether legislative approval is required for leased property that is less than five hectares of public land but with a lease of more than 25 years.

She further said the leases pertaining to Managaha Island and Mariana Resort & Spa (Kan Pacific) are pending legal review so she cannot discuss it further.

from hearing the case almost immediately after it was filed.

The parties in this case have acknowledged receiving the *sua sponte* motion, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

In a statement from Torres and his team, they said they are praying for Tolentino's speedy recovery.

"Former governor Ralph DLG Torres' legal team received the *sua sponte* order this morning. The team prays for Judge Tolentino's speedy recovery. The team also looks forward to the newly assigned judge in this matter because there are pending motions before the court and very important issues that must be resolved prior to the start of the jury trial," said Torres' defense team.

Robert Glass Jr., Chief Solicitor for the Office of the Attorney General and the head prosecutor in the criminal case against Torres, said

that he appreciates Tolentino's service to the CNMI.

"The Office of the Attorney General appreciates Judge Tolentino's service to the CNMI in this important case and sends its thoughts and prayers for him to get well soon," he stated.

The OAG has charged Torres with 12 counts of misconduct in public office and one count of theft relating to the issuance of airline tickets for business class, first class, or other premium class travel for himself and/or his wife, then-first lady Diann T. Torres.

A little over a week ago, the defense team representing Torres filed two motions for reconsideration "a reconsideration of the court's previous decision to deny dismissal of the case, and reconsideration of the court's decision denying the team's request to disqualify the OAG from prosecuting this case.



LEIGH GASES

Members of the 17th Saipan Municipal Council, from left, chairwoman Marian Deleon Guerrero Tudela, secretary Carmen C. Pangelinan, and vice chairwoman Antonia M. Tudela, pose next to an artist's rendition of the proposed Saipan and Northern Island Municipal Council building that is set to be built by March 2024 in Chalan Kanoa next to the U.S. Postal Service.

Palacios in Guam for official business trip

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios left Saipan yesterday morning for an off-island official business trip, but did not indicate in his memorandum where he is going and for what event.

Palacios notified all department and agency heads on Tuesday that he will be out of the Commonwealth from yesterday to today, Thursday, on official business.

Saipan Tribune learned that Pala-

cios went to Guam for a meeting and that he will be back to Saipan today, Thursday.

Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) said yesterday she heard that the governor is in Guam to meet with Federal Aviation Administration and other officials.

Palacios designated Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang as acting governor until his return. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

LEGISLATURE

From Page 1

With the Senate's and House's approval of the conference committee's report, this means the budget revision legislation will now go to Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' desk for signing into law.

Palacios was off-island yesterday for an official business in Guam. (*See story on Page 4*)

All 20 House members and nine Senate members were present during their respective emergency sessions. Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) was on Rota but joined the session virtually. The legislators clapped their hands after passing the bill.

The Legislature's assistant sergeant-at-arms Wilbrandon Aguon Jr., handed a copy of the budget revision bill—technically called House Bill 23-31, HS1, SS2, CCS1—to Amelia Shai, the special assistant for programs and legisla-

tive review, at the Governor's Office yesterday at 2:31pm.

Rep. Ralph N. Yumul (Ind-Saipan) introduced House Bill 23-31 to repeal and re-enact the budget law (Public Law 22-22, or the Appropriations and Budget Authority Act of 2023) last March 17. The House passed the legislation, with amendments, on that same day.

The Senate made amendments to the bill and passed the measure in the form of House Bill 23-31, HS1, Senate Substitute 2.

Last Friday, the House rejected the Senate's amendments and the bill was subsequently referred to a bipartisan conference committee.

The committee conferees met and deliberated Tuesday, during which they agreed upon their respective proposals. They came back yesterday morning to review and vote on their final product.

A longer version of this story
is available at
www.saipantribune.com

JUDGE

From Page 1

means "on its own" as the court has the ability to act on its own without a filed motion or request.

"Pursuant to 1 CMC sect. 3309(a) and in accordance with the Code of Judicial Conduct Canon 3D(a), the undersigned on his own initiative does hereby enter this written order of recusal due to an ongoing health issue which may interfere with his ability to participate in the impending trial," Tolentino's order stated.

The former governor's jury trial is set to start on June 5, 2023.

Tolentino's recusal leaves the Torres case without a judge once again as Tolentino was only appointed by the Supreme Court because all the CNMI's judges recused themselves



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Air Force lays out 4 scenarios in Global Futures Report



ARLINGTON, Va.—The U.S. Air Force published its Global

Futures Report on April 12, assessing four potential operating environments airmen may have to navigate in before the turn of the century.

The report incorporates findings using Foresight Methodology to identify key forces and factors that will drive or constrain how the service will fight in 2040.

“This report defines success in challenging singular visions of the future while understanding disruptions will be the norm,” said Lt. Gen. S. Clinton Hinote, Air Force Futures director. “The strate-

gies we adopt and the forces we design must address the possibility of surprise, especially surprises that could transform how we fight.”

The Air Force Global Futures Report: Joint Functions in 2040 explores four scenarios, or future operating environments, through the lens of the seven joint functions found in U.S. doctrine—Fires, Protection, Movement and Maneuver, Information, Intelligence, Command and Control (C2) and Sustainment.

The report provides an assessment of each prediction to uncover weak signals, current trends and the forces that may impact future operations for the Air Force and Depart-

ment of Defense. Potential alternative futures include:

- **Continued Growth**—Great power competitors continue attempts to increase leverage over the United States and diminish its advantages.

- **Transformational**—Unprecedented technological advances and their widespread dissemination reshape global power dynamics on a scale not previously considered plausible.

- **Constrained**—Sino-Russian coordination continues to benefit both countries in everything from new technologies, strategic and critical minerals, to the mass production and distribution of resources.

- **Collapse**—Natural and man-made crises drive isolationist and nationalist tendencies globally.

The report will be used to inform planners, strategists and wargame scenarios positioning airmen to anticipate, prepare and operate in the future.

“In order to provide the appropriate level of national security our nation relies on, we must understand the world in such a way that we maintain a faster decision cycle than our adversaries,” Hinote said. “Our strategic superiority depends on it.”

In addition to understanding the impact of today’s choices on tomorrow, the report has the ability to shape a budget

approach that identifies and focuses on investments that are relevant across a variety of use cases, such as the ones depicted in the report. The full copy is available here:

chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnpbpcjpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.af.mil/Portals/1/documents/2023SAF/Air_Force_Global_Futures_Report.pdf (af.mil) **(PR)**

Boonie dog joins USDA's snake detector team



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Agu and his trainer, Paul Roberts, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services, are all smiles after receiving medical clearance from the Boller Veterinary Treatment Facility.

YIGO, Guam—The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services Brown Tree Snake Detector Dog Program has a new recruit.

Boonie dog Agu, formerly of the Guam Animals In Need shelter, has joined the fight against the invasive brown tree snakes that have caused significant ecological and economical damage on the island.

Agu caught the attention of GAIN staff member Kelsey Graupner, who recognized his intelligence and potential as a working dog. “I immediately noticed that Agu was very friendly, and extremely quick to learn,” says Graupner. The USDA’s dog detector teams have been working in Guam since 1993 to control the invasive brown tree snake population in Guam and prevent its spread to neighboring islands. The snakes have caused the extinction of 10 endemic bird species and have proven challenging to control over the years. With rigorously trained dogs joining in the fight against brown tree snakes, the number of snakes caught has increased significantly over the last year.

The selection process for working dogs is rigorous, and the USDA’s dog trainers look for small dogs with high energy and intelligence, willingness to work in and around areas with loud noises and high activity, and a good work ethic. The dogs must also have a clean bill of

health to handle the challenges of working. The trainers typically look for terrier mix dogs that have a natural prey drive useful in seeking out snakes. Once trained, these dogs search all outbound cargo, vehicles, and aircraft departing Guam to help protect other islands from suffering the same fate as Guam.

When Graupner heard the USDA Brown Tree Snake Canine Program was seeking new additions to the team, she reached out to Patrick Barnhart, supervisory wildlife biologist and canine program manager in Guam. After several lengthy behavioral evaluations, Agu was brought to the Boller Veterinary Treatment Facility on Naval Base Guam for his final evaluation. He passed the physical tests with flying colors and was formally accepted into the USDA APHIS WS Brown Tree Snake Detector Dog Program and adopted from GAIN.

According to GAIN president Lauren Cabrera, “Boonie dogs are healthy, smart, and resilient. Many of them descended from dogs brought over during World War II. Between their intelligent ancestry and natural selection, only the smartest and sturdiest boonies survive. We should be proud of our unique island mutts and treat them as such.”

Agu is a testament to the intelligence and capabilities of shelter dogs. He is now part of a dedicated team of dogs helping to protect the Pacific region’s ecology and wildlife from invasive brown tree snakes. **(PR)**

Ogo bill adds agri-, aquaculture to qualifying investments

While doing research on legislative drafts that may have addressed the same issues that Rep. Julie A. Ogo (Ind-Saipan) is interested in crafting, she came across House Bill 22-70 titled “Investment Incentive Act Reform,” that was introduced by former representative Angel Demapan but was not passed.

After reviewing the draft and more research materials, Ogo decided to reintroduce the legislative draft with some changes to meet the present



Ogo

needs of the CNMI, making sure that agriculture and aquaculture are on the investment list of industries qualifying for

qualifying tax certificates. “We need to allow farmers and fishermen to tap into our resources and thrive in industries closely tied to our indigenous culture and be able to promote and export our local

products,” she stated. “Just as Hawaii is well known for its amazing pineapples, the CNMI needs to start exploring the idea of promoting the CNMI through what it produces that represents our way of life and unique identity.”

Part of H.B.22-70 was the pre-approved sites and permits for certain industries made to be investment-ready. While the legislative draft prioritizes the use of public lands, it does not preclude the use of private properties, and Ogo hopes to

see the use of private lands that are currently idle for local people to toss into the investment scheme and own part of the industry by converting their land value into corporate shares.

“I also hope that [the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority] will consider negotiating with golf course developers to include in their proposal golf tourism by promoting the CNMI through golf tournaments and sponsoring golf related events,” Ogo added. **(PR)**

Rip currents seen until this afternoon

The public is being warned that there is a high risk of rip currents until this afternoon, April 20, 2023.

Based on the information received from the

National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, dangerous rip currents are present

in east-facing reefs of the Marianas. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water.

The public is advised to stay out of the water along east facing reef lines. Swim

near a lifeguard. If caught in a rip current, relax and float. Don’t swim against the current. If able, swim in a direction following the shoreline. If unable to escape, face the shore and call or wave for help. **(PR)**

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
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DCRM Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.becq.gov.mp

El D. Cabrera
Administrator
Zabrina S. Cruz
Director, DEQ

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSENT DECREE FOR SAIPAN INDUSTRIAL INC. CO. FACILITY AREA OF CONCERN: MASON PLACE, AS LITO, SAIPAN

DATE: April 06, 2023

On November 30, 2022, the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) notified **Saipan Industrial Inc. Co. (“Saipan Industrial”)** to begin negotiations for a consent decree for the cleanup of calcium carbide released into an unlined berm, approximately 20’x7’ with an estimated depth of 6’-8’, located at Saipan Industrial’s industrial gas manufacturing facility at Mason Place, As Lito, Saipan.

NATURE OF RELEASE, SUSPECTED HARMFUL SUBSTANCES, AND POTENTIAL RISKS TO HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT: The unlined berm at the site is filled with calcium carbide waste, found by DEQ to be characteristically hazardous due to its pH level. As a result of the release, land areas and drainages below the Site are reasonably expected to be affected by the contamination. The proposed consent decree will require Saipan Industrial to complete removal and remediation work specified in the draft consent decree’s Scope of Work, including but not limited to performance of a risk assessment to identify the nature and extent of the contamination; removal of all by-product material consistent with a removal plan; soil and groundwater sampling consistent with a sampling and analysis plan; testing of excavated materials to determine whether they are hazardous or non-hazardous for disposal purposes; and assessment of whether additional removal work or remediation is necessary.

Written comments can be submitted by mail to DEQ, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950; sent by fax to 664-8540; or emailed to josh.santos@becq.gov.mp. Comments must be received by DEQ no later than May 05, 2023. All comments received by DEQ will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed activity. In addition, if ten or more persons request a public meeting on the subject of this public notice, DEQ may hold a public meeting to receive comments. Interested persons may obtain further information by scheduling an appointment with DEQ, Chalan Pale Arnold – Middle Road.

/S/
ELI D. CABRERA
Administrator
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

/S/
ZABRINA S. CRUZ
Acting Director
Division of Environmental Quality

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport

“Retail Concession”

CPA-RFP-005-23

for:

CPA Concession No. RCA-2022-01

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (“CPA” or “Authority”) is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide retail services to the traveling public at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport (“Retail Concession”). The successful proposer will be expected to provide retail services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport for a period of Three (3) years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-005-23 is **April 20, 2023**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport or at the administration office at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Retail Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on May 23, 2023**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$50.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier’s check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

/s/
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

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Send Resume & Transcript to Wing Corporation.
ATTN: Hyeyoung KIM, P.O.BOX 10003 PMB 586, Saipan, MP 96950.



NEW ENLISTEES

From left, Marianas High School students Phil Sai Gases, Eitman Chowdhury, and Joshua Benedict are sworn in after enlisting in the Guam Army National Guard. The formal enlistment ceremony was held at the Guam Army National Guard Readiness Center in Barrigada, Guam, last April 13, 2023. Other photo shows them with some family members after their swearing in.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Celebrate National Library Week at JKPL on April 23-29

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library encourages all community members to visit your public libraries during National Library Week, April 23-29, to explore all they have to offer. And not just during National Library Week, but all year long!

Most people know about the wealth of stories available at the library, from picture books and large print to audiobooks and ebooks. But there's so much more to the story of libraries.

Libraries are welcoming spaces that bring communities together for entertainment, education, and connection through book clubs, Storytime, movie nights, crafting classes, lectures, and more. All libraries play a critical role in the economic vitality of communities by providing internet and technology access, literacy skills, and support for job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs supports our CNMI community with online resources through Gale Cengage and EBSCOhost and in person services such as computer classes to print your résumé or learn coding and typing classes or take Microsoft Excel and Word classes.

National Library Week Activities

■ April 20: SEAL-Solar Eclipse Activities For Libraries (1:30pm-3:30pm)

■ April 21: National Library Week Proclamation signing at JKPL (10am)

■ April 22: Earth Day-JKPL Beautification and Earth Day Bingo

■ April 23: Prayer for National Library Week. Virtual Mass, Catholic Diocese of Chalan Kanoa

■ April 24: State of America's Libraries Report Released, including Top 10 frequently challenged books of 2022: Visit virtually at JKPL's IG and FB page.

■ April 25: National Library Workers Day. A day to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

■ April 26: National Library Outreach Day. Formerly National Bookmobile Day, it is a day to celebrate library outreach and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.

■ April 27: Take Action for Libraries Day. A day to rally advocates to support libraries.

■ April 27: Community Edible Book Contest. Put your skills into action. Call JKPL for registration and contest rules.

■ April 27: Amnesty Day. Sometimes we forget to return our books. Call JKPL for more information.

■ April 28: Arbor Day. Tree planting at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library.

■ April 28: Lost or Dam-

age Card! Stop by the library to have it replaced during Free Library Card Day.

■ April 29: National Library Week Roadside waving (4pm at the Minachom Atdao)

■ April 29: Friends of the JKPL 2nd Annual Commu-

nity 5K Fun Run/Walk at 5pm showtime; Minachom Atdao to Quartermaster Road.

For more information regarding any of our activities, contact JKPL at 670-235-7322/7318 or visit our website @ www.cnmlib.org. (PR)




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Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Declining American pride

In Hampton Roads, a place steeped in American history and proud of its rich military tradition, patriotism and a commitment to the national character are points of pride. But recent polling suggests that the region may be an outlier compared to the rest of the country.

March polling by the Wall Street Journal and NORC, a nonpartisan research organization at the University of Chicago, discovered some startling changes in American attitudes that, per the paper, suggest that “patriotism, religious faith, having children and other priorities that helped define the national character for generations are receding in importance.”

Researchers found that “38% of respondents said patriotism was very important to them, and 39% said religion was very important.” When pollsters asked those same questions in 1998, the numbers were 70% and 62%, respectively.

Poll respondents also reported they felt having children, hard work and community involvement were less important than in previous iterations of the questions. Tolerance for others also sharply declined, from 80% who considered it important in 2019 to 58% percent now.

The one thing that increased in respondents’ esteem during that period? Money, which 43% considered important, up from 38% four years prior.

John McCormack, writing for the National Review, said the new figures may be slightly misleading because of a change in the way researchers conducted the poll. He pointed to numbers from Gallup as more consistent, but that organization reported in June that only 38% of those asked said they were proud to be an American. That’s a record low.

How does that stack up against other countries? Pew Research, in May 2021, found that 53% of Germans, 45% of the French and 41% of United Kingdom residents considered themselves proud of their country compared to 39% for the United States.

A sharp decline in patriotism is cause for alarm. It is also very understandable.

Distrust of American institutions, both public and private, are at all-time lows. People deeply dislike Congress, the Supreme Court and, in recent years, whoever serves as president. They have been betrayed by banks and Wall Street, failed by religious groups and civic organizations, and see media outlets as partisan and untrustworthy. They are suspicious and wary of one another.

All of that contributes to a sense of despair, which is taking its toll on the public.

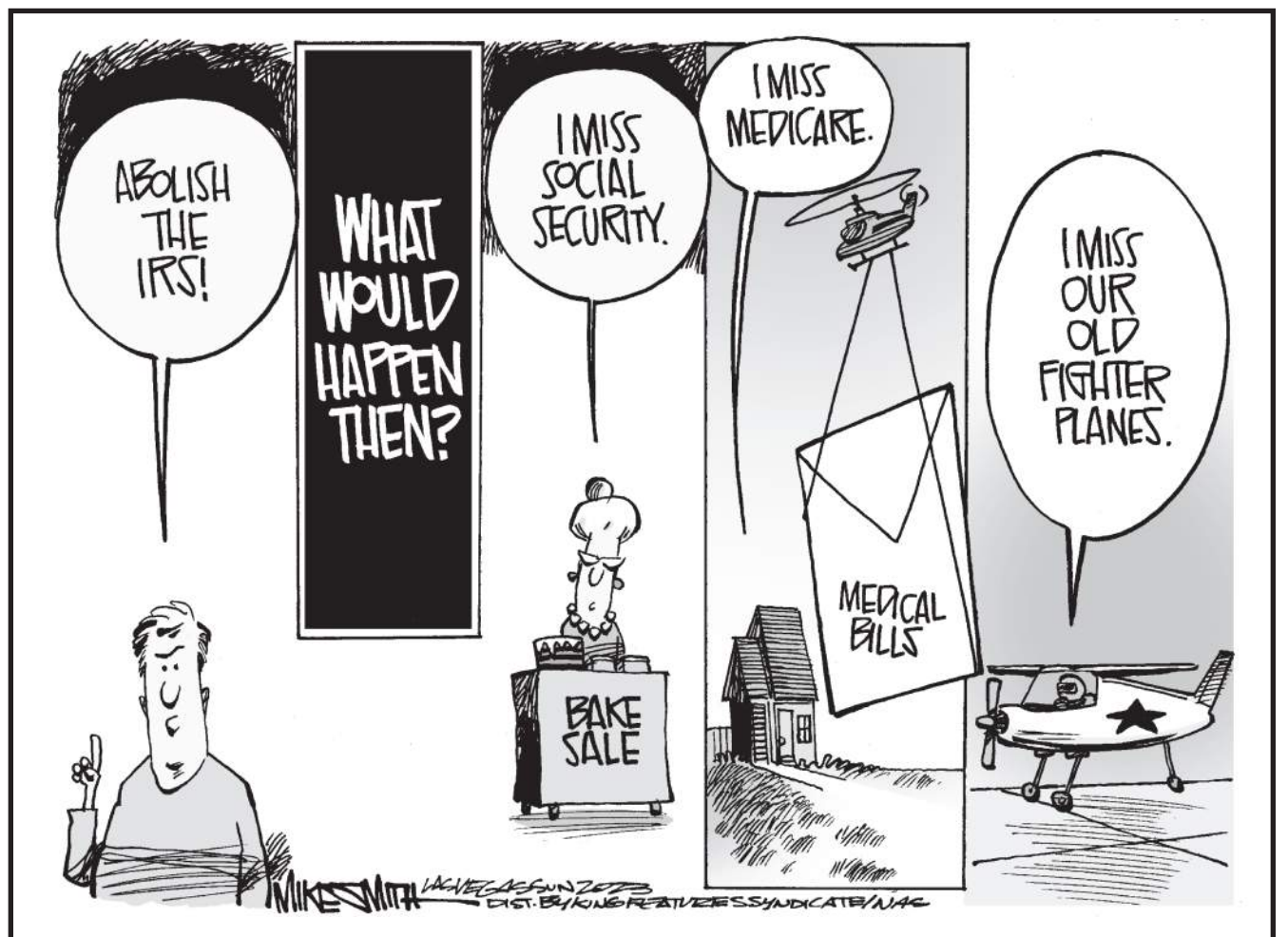
In a recent Financial Times column, John Burn-Murdoch reported that a sharp drop in Americans’ life expectancy now sees them live, on average, shorter lives than the British, regardless of income. U.S. life expectancy is 76.4 years, the lowest in two decades.

Obviously COVID-19 skews those numbers, but life expectancy was dropping prior to the pandemic. And, as Burn-Murdoch noted in a Twitter thread accompanying his column, “One in 25 American 5-year-olds today will not make it to their 40th birthday.”

It’s no easy thing to restore hope and confidence in people, especially in people increasingly dour about the nation around them. But Americans need to recognize their power to affect change, through their vote and their dollar, to help build a nation worthy of their pride and inspiration. They cannot sit on the sidelines and hope for things to improve.

To do nothing is to resign ourselves to hopelessness and see that which so many worked to build slowly drift apart.

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US-China tensions are feeding a new wave of anti-Asian hate

The far-right website the Daily Caller recently smeared Asian American business leaders in L.A. as stooges of the People’s Republic of China. This portrayal—based on prejudice, not evidence—points to a trend we’re likely to only see expand. Amid widening U.S.-China tensions, American extremists and officials alike are stoking fears that will start another surge of racism toward Chinese people and others of Asian descent.

U.S. government leaders have been clear in their messaging: China, and anyone associated with it, may be a security threat. Lawmakers excoriated Shou Zi Chew, the Singaporean chief executive of the Chinese-owned social media platform TikTok, during last month’s congressional hearings, at times treating him and the app as a proxy for the Chinese government. During a university talk this month, FBI Director Christopher A. Wray again declared China the greatest “long-term” threat to the United States. “The current Chinese regime will stop at nothing to steal what they can’t create and silence the messages they don’t want to hear,” Wray claimed, “all in an effort to surpass us as a global superpower.” Others in the Biden administration, such as Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III, have repeated this message.

Public officials have the right to—and should—critique other nations’ policies. Wray also did well to qualify his statement by saying: “To be clear, that threat stems from the Chinese government, not the Chinese people themselves.” But examples from the past and present tell us that this pattern of widely invoking the China threat has dangerous consequences for Americans of Asian descent, perpetuating long-standing stereotypes of Chinese and other Asian communities as foreign, dangerous and unscrupulous—an existential threat to the United States.

This message is coming after a couple of years of racist scapegoating of Asian Americans for COVID-19, and at a time when Americans’ view of China is the lowest it’s been in at least a decade. In 2022, 8 in 10 Americans polled by the Pew Research Center held an unfavorable opinion of China. That opinion can translate into more suspicion of Chinese individuals. A recent study by Princeton University researchers found that Americans who perceived China as a threat were also more likely to stereotype Chinese people as untrustworthy and immoral. Further, it found that those in Republican counties are more likely to homogenize East Asians as one group and extend these negative traits to other Asians in the U.S. as well. A 2021 survey estimated that nearly 1 in 5 Asian Americans—almost 5 million people—experienced a racist incident in the last year.

Yet despite these consequences, U.S. officials have long stoked xenophobia to serve a political agenda. In the 19th century, politicians blamed the American recession on Chinese mi-

By **RUSSELL JEUNG**

Los Angeles Times

Russell Jeung is a professor of Asian American studies at San Francisco State University. He is writing a book on anti-Asian racism and the Asian American movement for racial justice.



grants, who they charged stole white workers’ jobs and brought diseases to the West. By claiming that Chinese immigrants simply could not assimilate, the Workingmen’s Party riled up a voter base and swept into office.

Lawmakers then passed the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and renewed it in 1892, institutionalizing discrimination against Chinese and other Asian immigrants by categorizing them as “aliens ineligible for citizenship” and sanctioning violence to expel them. In 1885 and 1886, mobs employed force to displace en masse 168 Chinese communities along the West Coast.

The animus against Chinese people is repeating in proposed policies today. Prompted by a Chinese developer’s proposed land purchase for a wind farm in Texas, the state banned infrastructure projects from entities with direct ties to China, and Gov. Greg Abbott endorsed expanding the ban to outlaw any property ownership by Chinese residents who aren’t U.S. citizens. (State lawmakers softened the bill, which would also apply to those from North Korea, Iran and Russia.) As of February, at least 11 state legislatures were considering legislation to limit Chinese landownership. In the broader push to ban books by minority authors nationwide, policymakers have sought to ban titles by Chinese American authors Kelly Yang, Malinda Lo and Laurence Yep (including “Dragonwings,” Yep’s Newbery honoree novel for children).

Ultimately, such hysteria is a measure of the American psyche. Today’s version of it speaks to Americans’ fears over our economic, moral and political standing in the world. Blaming other nations—and our own minority communities—for American woes is easier than reforming our faltering political and other systems.

If we truly believe in democratic ideals and values, let’s honor them. Rather than attacking groups to rile up voting blocs and stir up culture wars, we should safeguard our civil liberties and promote racial unity. Asian Americans, like everyone in the U.S., should be considered innocent until proved guilty, not assumed to be seditious or targeted as the result of others’ anxieties. The irony is that such fears stem from concerns about American weakness—but the resulting racism weakens our democracy.

My friend, John: The urgent need for accessibility and inclusion in public events

My friend, John, is one of the most inspiring people I know. He's in a wheelchair, but he doesn't let that define him. He's independent, funny, and loves to have a good time. However, when it comes to accessing different facilities in our community, John faces countless obstacles. And with a concert coming up next month, we're worried and quite honestly frustrated that it won't be physically accessible for John and other individuals with disabilities.

It's been over 30 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed, and yet we still have a long way to go in terms of making our community more accessible and inclusive. It's unacceptable that individuals with disabilities still face barriers that prevent them from fully participating in public events and enjoying the same opportunities as everyone else. Where are we going wrong, CNMI?

It's time for us as a community to step up and address these barriers. It's not just a matter of legality—it's a matter of basic human rights. Everyone should have the opportunity to participate in community events and feel like they belong. When we exclude individuals with disabilities, we're sending a message

that they're unimportant and don't deserve to be part of our community. That does not constitute the island culture and values of which we are so often proud.

Accessibility and inclusion should be at the forefront of every event planning process. It shouldn't be a question. It should be non-negotiable. We need to be more diligent in ensuring that every venue, stage, and activity is accessible to individuals with disabilities. It's not enough to simply comply with the ADA regulations. We need to go beyond that and create a community where everyone feels welcomed and valued.

As we approach the concert next month, it's crucial that the organizers take the necessary steps to ensure that the event is accessible to everyone. It's not enough to have a ramp or an accessible bathroom—every aspect of the event needs to be designed with accessibility in mind. It's time for us to hold event organizers accountable and demand that they prioritize accessibility and inclusion. The best time to start was 1993 when the ADA was passed, but the second-best time to start is now.

John is not just my friend—he's a reminder of the urgent need for accessibility and inclusion in our community. Let's do our part

By CLEO NENING

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Cleo Nening is a program coordinator at the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.



to create a community where individuals with disabilities are not only accommodated but celebrated for who they are. It's time for us to come together and create a community that values empathy and inclusivity for all.

For more information about accessibility, please contact the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. at (670) 235-7273/74 or visit our website at www.nmpasi.org. My friend John and all of our advocates here at NMPASI would be more than happy to assist.

The loss of local news outlets means no more 'first rough draft of history' for many communities

Recently, I spent an hour sorting through newspaper stories from the mid-2000s about the sale of a regional drugstore chain. The week before, I skimmed articles from the 1960s about racial discrimination at a popular swimming spot. And prior to that, I was reading accounts of specters and phantasms at a home built in the early 1800s.

The details that materialize by diving into the local past illuminate life, business and culture at specific points in our history.

From the newspapers on my laptop emerged a portrait of the brothers who owned a hardware store that closed after a blaze in the 2010s. There was the report from the 1990s of a rumored treasure hoard buried at a long-lost colonial-era Loyalist fort. And a 1960s account told how a movie theater at a new mall would have a seating plan designed "to eliminate bothersome rising to admit other patrons to the row."

As a tool for exploring the details of our communities' pasts, rather than the sweeping arcs of national or global events, local news is an invaluable first rough draft of history, as the saying goes.

Yet with local news at a crisis stage, we are now at grave risk of there being no rough first draft for many communities across the United States. Layoffs, buyouts, closures and mergers have resulted in spreading news deserts. We also have seen a rise of ghost papers, newspapers in name only but not in practice. The historians

of 2073 will find giant gaps in their local histories from this time.

Multiple organizations are working to support local media, including the Local News Initiative at Northwestern and the Rebuild Local News coalition. Until that work can succeed, what America also needs is a local history project, with trained people researching, documenting and gathering the stories of today to help researchers tomorrow—starting in the no-news communities left behind by absentee investors.

Reporters could train volunteers in interviewing and research. These would be perfect roles for AmeriCorps participants with matching interests. College students in anthropology, history and journalism could all lend a hand. And hearkening back to FDR's Federal Writers Project, this effort could find a paying home for local reporters and editors laid off by Gannett and others.

Some communities and historical societies have started something similar by gathering information about life under COVID-19 and the early pandemic. Yet for each national issue that grips the country's imagination, there are thousands of smaller but no less important topics that don't rise to the attention of our national media outlets.

With local journalism's decline, the collective narratives of a community reported by independent experts at storytelling and information-gathering will simply vanish.

There are a few scattered bright signs. In my home state of Del-

By DAN SHORTRIDGE

The Baltimore Sun

Dan Shortridge is a former newspaper reporter, freelance writer and co-author of several local-interest books about the Delmarva Peninsula.



aware, a local nonprofit fund has formed a once-unthinkable journalism collaborative, created internship opportunities and done research into news gaps. And several local independent weekly papers that fiercely cover their communities were sold within the last year—not to chains, but to current staff.

These papers have a simple strategy: Give their readers news that they can't get elsewhere, from the new fire chief appointment to controversy over cellphone towers, from the new grocery store opening to the minutiae of zoning battles. Their in-depth, locally centered reporting will be essential for future historians.

No corporate chain has acquired them, no publisher three states away has hollowed them out.

Let's hope for history's sake that they remain strong for some time to come.

Transit agencies recorded announcements with some very devoted riders—children with autism

People with autism spectrum disorder can present so differently that a common refrain is: "If you know one person with autism, you know one person with autism." Yet, there are often startling similarities.

For one thing, children with autism can persevere, or focus assiduously, on feats of mechanical engineering. I'm referring to stuff we all encounter every day without much thought.

A common example is subway systems, a phenomenon front-line transit workers are well familiar with. They see it when these kids are dragging their parents on joy rides to nowhere or asking them technical questions so complex that they are stumped. Those interactions and the conversations those kids have around trains are a part of their atypical but still useful early socialization; it's how life skills and civic participation can be introduced into their different worlds.

For those autistic children with language learning differences, the service announcements they hear on subway platforms can be some of the first phrases their minds grab on to. This can cut two ways. The children can become transfixed by the messages and regurgitate them meaninglessly, something called "echolalia." Or they can grab on to their meaning and incorporate them into how they communicate with others.

In either case, it is not unusual when the first full sentence a child with autism speaks is something like, "Stand clear of the closing doors, please."

For all these reasons, I reached out to the Metropolitan Trans-

portation Authority last year to see if it would let autistic children themselves record the agency's regular service announcements, to be broadcast publicly throughout the New York City transit system for National Autism Acceptance Month.

To my delight, they agreed!

I posted on social media immediately and, in an hour, had three dozen families sign up their kiddos. This year, five transit agencies are participating, including Bay Area Rapid Transit, New Jersey Transit, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and the MTA again.

Chicago's CTA declined in an unsigned email because, it said, "Our customers rely on our uniform travel announcements for navigating the system." Whereas my cold call to New Jersey Transit was returned personally by its CEO in no time and with a plea for other good ideas.

With this overall success, my goal for next year is to expand into some countries with state-of-the-art mass transit systems but mixed histories in fully accepting people with disabilities into their society.

A reporter I was talking to recently was trying to figure out why this project had taken off with relative speed. "It's not as if big bureaucratic transit agencies are known for moving quickly," he noted. "What do they get out of it?"

I had to think about that. I told him it was an opportunity for them to celebrate the special bond they have with a devoted ridership who love them unreservedly. He kind of rolled his eyes. So I said, "Look. You know that quote that's misattributed to

By JONATHAN TRICHTER

Chicago Tribune

Jonathan Trichter had a career in finance before his life was touched by autism. He opened several special needs schools and programs around the country for children with autism..



Gandhi, right? The one that says the measure of a society is how well it treats its most vulnerable?"

"Yes," he said.

"Well, with their participation in what is now being referred to as 'The Autism Transit Announcement Project,' these big bureaucratic agencies—that are so often criticized—get to show off how they legitimately help incorporate neurodiverse persons into civic life. These children are a fuller part of society and our community because of their love of mass transit."

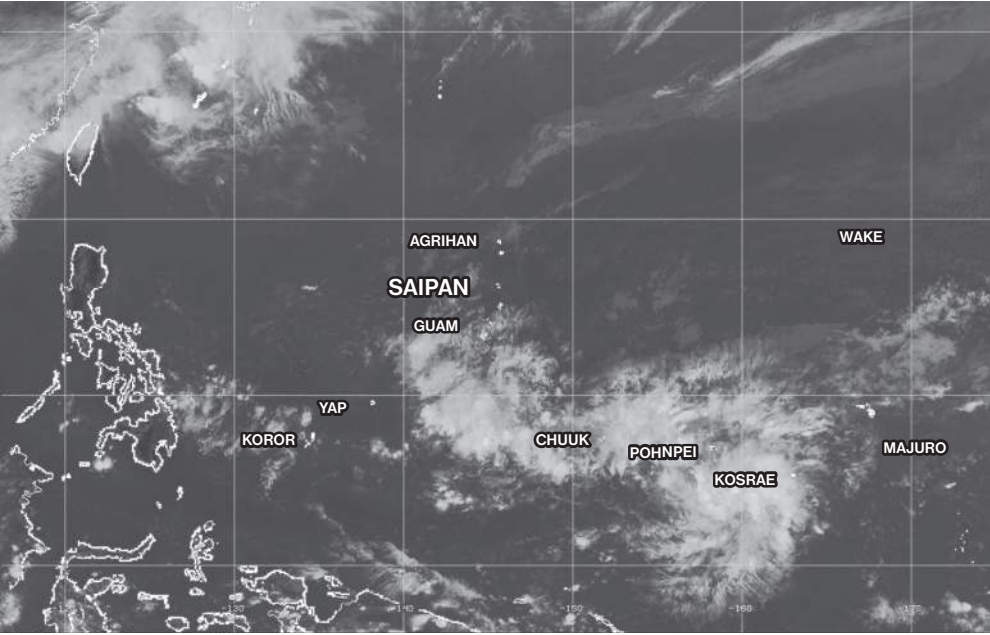
"Yeah," I concluded. "This is part of the overall inclusion project to treat our most vulnerable equitably and thereby help repair the broken human condition."

He rolled his eyes again.

"OK, well, it really is the perfect project for Autism Acceptance Month! How about that?"

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny	
85°	77°	85°	77°	85°	77°	86°	77°	86°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 9:04 AM, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam Doppler weather radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters with scattered showers west and south of Guam. The buoys reveal combined seas of 6 to 8 feet, mainly east swell and wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°	
Palau	Mostly Sunny	86° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Few Showers	83° / 77°	
Kosrae	Showers	86° / 81°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:00 AM	6:32 PM
Friday	5:59 AM	6:32 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:32 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:32 PM
Monday	5:57 AM	6:32 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	5:51 AM	6:38 PM	-
Friday	6:32 AM	7:34 PM	-
Saturday	7:16 AM	8:31 PM	-
Sunday	8:02 AM	9:28 PM	-
Monday	8:52 AM	10:24 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	71° / 64°	
Beijing	Cloudy	70° / 53°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	80° / 76°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	81° / 70°	
London	Mostly Sunny	60° / 45°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	69° / 51°	
Manila	Mostly Sunny	96° / 81°	
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	64° / 52°	
Miami	Cloudy	80° / 73°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	64° / 47°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	76° / 61°	
Paris	Mostly Sunny	57° / 39°	
Busan	Showers	71° / 62°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	68° / 48°	
Salem	Isolated Thunderstorms	91° / 72°	
San Francisco	Sunny	60° / 46°	
Seoul	Showers	65° / 52°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	76° / 64°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	75° / 52°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:37 AM	Low Tide	0.60	
7:23 AM	High Tide	2.05	
2:10 PM	Low Tide	0.09	
8:28 PM	High Tide	1.98	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 16, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	1, 4, 5, 7	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
TW9308	3:45AM	7:30AM	4, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	TW9307	9:00PM	2:45AM+1	3, 6
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (*The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.*)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

Women-owned businesses front and center at ‘Outside Market’

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

CNMI Women’s Association is continuing its support of women by featuring women-owned and co-owned businesses at its Entrepreneur Vendors Spot-Outside Market.

CWA said the street/outside market held every Wednesday is convenient for the community on Capitol Hill because it’s literally a short drive from their homes and it’s also relatively close to residents up north.

Office workers near the area can also easily use their lunch breaks to grab a quick bite to eat at the CWA Entrepreneur Vendors Spot-Outside Market. More importantly, the weekly market helps in empowering

women in the CNMI.

Currently, women-owned and co-owned businesses with stalls at the site include Kets Kitchen, Jenny’s Kitchen, Maya’s Kitchen, Lemonada Girls, and Cristianos Kitchen.

Kets Kitchen is famous for its Thai/local dishes like Pad Thai and lemongrass basil seafood, while Jenny’s Kitchen sells chicken kelaguen, red rice, and fried chicken. Maya’s Kitchen is the go-to place for Filipino dishes like dinuguan and pancit, while Lemonada Girls hawks lemonade. Cristianos Kitchen is known for its tacos and pork bowls.

“We are inviting all our neighbors up here in Capitol Hill to join us as we kick off this year with new opportunities for our women entrepreneurs to better sustain themselves and to become



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Cristianos Kitchen stall at the CNMI Women’s Association’s Entrepreneur Vendors Spot-Outside Market on Capitol Hill.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lemonada Girls stall attendants are all smiles while inviting customers to try their drinks.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Maya’s Kitchen sells Filipino goodies like pancit, puto, and fresh lumpia.

a part of CWA’s initiative to empower women for leadership as guardians of our *guinaha* (assets) and to foster *konfiansia* (self-confidence) for our women to maximize their potential to positively impact our families and the CNMI community,” said CWA.

The Entrepreneur Vendors Spot-Outside Market is held every Wednesday, from 11am to 2:30pm, at the CWA Women’s Center on Capitol Hill. It is building No. 1223 right across the Medicaid Office, next to the Bridge Capital LLC Bust Stop.

Those in a hurry, you can

pre order your items at our [goodys.com](https://ourgoodys.com).

Those who would like to become a food vendor or rummage seller, vendor spots are available for purchase on the link <https://cnmiwomen.org/membership-application-form/>.

The application forms are

also available at ourgoodys.com and cwa-entrepreneur-shop.com. Become a member of CWA by signing up on their website (cnmiwomen.org) and get discounted rates.

For more information on CWA’s Entrepreneur Vendors Spot-Outside Market, call (670) 223-8078/0411.

Biden pans McCarthy’s debt plan as ‘huge cuts’ to Americans

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Speaker Kevin McCarthy worked furiously Tuesday to build support for a Republican plan that would demand strict limits to federal spending in return for agreeing to raise the nation’s debt limit and stave off an unprecedented U.S. default.

But President Joe Biden swiftly swatted down the plan, which would cap much federal spending at increases of 1% a year, as requiring “huge cuts” to programs helping millions of Americans.

It was just the latest in what is expected to be a protracted debate over how, when and

even whether to raise the nation’s debt limit, now at \$31 trillion, with default and a potentially devastating blow to the economy possible if Congress fails to act.

McCarthy is finding unusual support for his plan from his typically fractured House Republican majority, who view the proposal as a calling card to push Biden into negotiations. The White House has so far refused to engage in debt ceiling talks, doubtful McCarthy can unify Republicans and steer any proposal to passage.

Biden, in his first public remarks on the proposal, said at

the White House that McCarthy had effectively proposed “huge cuts to important programs” that millions of U.S. households depend on.

The president said McCarthy has “threatened to be the first one to default on the debt, which would throw us into a gigantic recession and beyond unless he gets what he wants in the budget.”

The high-stakes battle comes as Biden confronts this year’s newly divided government with Republicans in charge of the House and eager to flex their majority power. McCarthy delivered a high-profile speech to

Wall Street on Monday outlining his vision.

If McCarthy succeeds in having the House pass his proposal, he would be able to show he has the backing of his fellow GOP lawmakers as he enters spending talks with the White House. Biden says the Republicans should first reveal their own detailed spending plan—free of any connection to the debt limit. And administration officials have privately expressed doubts about the benefits of negotiating with McCarthy out of skepticism that he can actually deliver conservative Republican votes.

Fox, Dominion reach \$787M settlement over election claims

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Fox News agreed Tuesday to pay Dominion Voting Systems nearly \$800 million to avert a trial in the voting machine company’s lawsuit that would have exposed how the network promoted lies about the 2020 presidential election.

The stunning settlement emerged just as opening statements were supposed to begin, abruptly ending a case that had embarrassed Fox News over several months

and raised the possibility that network founder Rupert Murdoch and stars such as Tucker Carlson and Sean Hannity would have to testify publicly.

“The truth matters. Lies have consequences,” Dominion lawyer Justin Nelson told reporters outside a Delaware courthouse after Superior Court Judge Eric Davis announced the deal.

Outside of the \$787.5 million promised to Colorado-based Dominion, it was unclear what other conse-

quences Fox would face. Fox acknowledged in a statement “the court’s rulings finding certain claims about Dominion to be false,” but no apology was offered.

“We are hopeful that our decision to resolve this dispute with Dominion amicably, instead of the acrimony of a divisive trial, allows the country to move forward from these issues,” Fox said. Its lawyers and representatives offered no other comment or details

about the settlement.

Asked by a reporter whether there was “anything to this other than money,” Dominion CEO John Poulos did not answer.

The deal is a significant amount of money even for a company the size of Fox. It represents about one-quarter of the \$2.96 billion the company reported earning last year before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization—a figure often used to approximate a company’s cash flow.

Nation

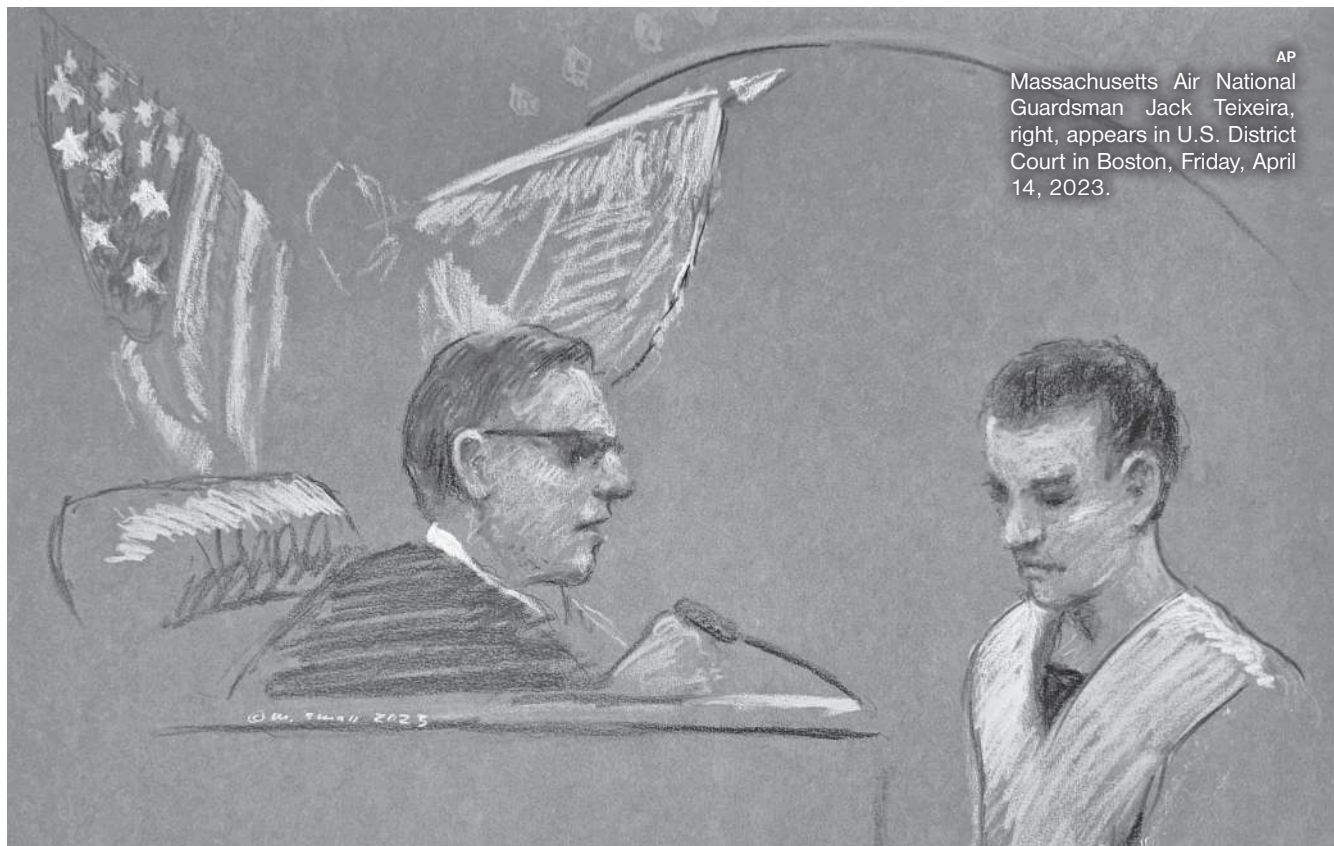
Judge to decide whether leak suspect should remain jailed

BOSTON (AP)—A Massachusetts Air National Guardsman charged with leaking highly classified military documents is due back in court on Wednesday for a hearing to decide whether he should remain behind bars while he awaits trial.

Jack Teixeira, 21, was arrested by heavily armed tactical agents at his Massachusetts home last week and charged, under the Espionage Act, with unauthorized retention and transmission of classified national defense information. During his first court appearance in Boston's federal court Friday, a magistrate judge ordered him to remain in custody until Wednesday's detention hearing.

Teixeira is accused of sharing highly classified military documents about the Ukraine war and other top national security issues in a chat room on Discord, a social media platform that started as a hang-out for gamers. The stunning breach exposing closely held intelligence has sparked international uproar and raised fresh questions about America's ability to safeguard its secrets.

Air Force leaders said Tuesday that they were investigating how a lone airman could access and distribute possibly hundreds of highly classified documents. The Air Force has also taken away the intel-



AP
Massachusetts Air National Guardsman Jack Teixeira, right, appears in U.S. District Court in Boston, Friday, April 14, 2023.

ligence mission from the Air National Guard 102nd Intelligence Wing based in Cape Cod — where Teixeira served — pending further review.

Court records unsealed last week revealed how billing records the FBI obtained from Discord and interviews with social media comrades led authorities to Teixeira.

Investigators believe he was the leader of an online private chat group on Discord called

Thug Shaker Central, which drew roughly two dozen enthusiasts who talked about their favorite types of guns and shared memes and jokes, some of them racist. The group also held a running discussion on wars that included talk of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

A Discord user familiar with Teixeira's online posts told the FBI that a username linked to Teixeira began posting what appeared to be classified infor-

mation roughly in December. The person provided the FBI with basic identifying information about Teixeira, including that he called himself "Jack," claimed to be part of the Air National Guard and appeared to live in Massachusetts, according to the affidavit.

The person also told the FBI that Teixeira switched from typing out documents in his possession to taking them home and photographing them

because he "had become concerned that he may be discovered making the transcriptions of text in the workplace."

That's different from what posters have told The Associated Press and other media outlets, saying the user they would call "the O.G." started posting images of documents because he was annoyed other users weren't taking him seriously.

The affidavit alleges Teixeira was detected on April 6 —

the day The New York Times first published a story about the breach of documents — searching for the word "leak" in a classified system. The FBI says that was reason to believe Teixeira was trying to find information about the investigation into who was responsible for the leaks.

The classified documents range from briefing slides mapping out Ukrainian military positions to assessments of international support for Ukraine and other sensitive topics, including under what circumstances Russian President Vladimir Putin might use nuclear weapons.

Authorities have not revealed an alleged motive. But members of the Discord group described Teixeira as someone looking to show off, rather than being motivated by a desire to inform the public about U.S. military operations or to influence American policy.

The Biden administration has scrambled to contain the potential diplomatic and military fallout from the leaks since they were first reported, moving to reassure allies and assess the scope of damage. There has been no clear answer on how many documents were leaked. The Associated Press has viewed approximately 50 documents; some estimates put the total number in the hundreds.

NRA shows gun rights power but pushback grows from shootings

WASHINGTON (AP)—The roster of Republican presidential hopefuls who flocked to the National Rifle Association's annual convention reflects the political potency of gun rights, despite the group's eroding revenues and an opposition movement that's growing increasingly vocal as the drumbeat of mass shootings marches on.

Even amid internal turmoil and legal woes, the gun ownership culture and movement that the NRA helped build remains formidable. And the landmark Supreme Court ruling on the Second Amendment last summer has given new strength to gun-rights activists seeking to invalidate firearm restrictions across the country.

"On the one hand, the gun-rights movement has never been stronger," said Adam Winkler, a law professor at the University of California, Los Angeles who wrote "Gunfight: The Battle over the Right to Bear Arms in America." But "one of the interesting

things about this moment is the NRA, in some ways, has never faced more organizational incoherence and disarray."

This year's convention came just days after mass shootings at a school in Nashville, Tennessee and at a bank last week in Louisville, Kentucky, the latter of which marked the 15th mass killing of the year in the U.S. in which four or more people were killed other than the perpetrator, according to a mass killings database maintained by The Associated Press and USA Today in partnership with Northeastern University. That was the most during the first 100 days of a calendar year since 2009, when 16 incidents had occurred by April 10.

"No one wants to see the violence you see in schools and stuff today," Randy Conner, a pistol and rifle instructor for the NRA from Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, told The Associated Press during the event. "But I don't think taking the guns away from ordinary citizens is going to

change any of that at all."

The Indianapolis gathering drew a slew of Republicans, including former President Donald Trump and former Vice President Mike Pence, potential rivals for the GOP's 2024 presidential nomination.

They vowed to defend the Second Amendment and dismissed the idea that gun restrictions are the answer to violence on the streets.

It also came as the NRA grapples with the fallout of infighting and lawsuits.

A judge last year ruled that the New York attorney general's lawsuit accusing some top NRA executives of financial improprieties can move forward, even though the judge rebuffed Attorney General Letitia James' bid to put the group out of business. The NRA filed for bankruptcy in

2021, but a judge dismissed that case, ruling it was not filed in good faith.

Five years ago, the NRA had a \$36 million deficit because of lavish spending, followed by lawsuits from its own members as well as the attorneys general in New York and Washington, D.C.

House Republicans ready border enforcement push after delays

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republicans for months have railed against the Biden administration's handling of the U.S. border with Mexico, holding hearings, visiting border communities and promising to advance legislation to clamp down on illegal immigration and drug trafficking.

But so far, they have failed to unify behind a plan, delaying efforts to pass legislation.

Now they are hoping to change that. Republicans on Wednesday are jumpstarting work on an immigration and border enforcement package that would remake immigration law to make it more difficult to apply for asylum and

easier for the federal government to stop migrants from entering the U.S.

Rep. Jim Jordan, the Republican who is chair of the Judiciary Committee drafting the legislation, said he expected Wednesday's markup of the bill to go "well."

The undertaking comes as Washington is putting renewed focus on border security, and the plight of thousands of migrants who show up seeking entry into the U.S., with a looming May deadline that is expected to end a federal COVID-era asylum policy. The hearing also comes as Republicans, more than 100 days into their new House majority,

are under political pressure to deliver on a key campaign promise to secure the border.

The Republican legislative package, which may not draw much bipartisan support from Democrats, aims to revive a number of policies either enacted or proposed under then-President Donald Trump that tightened up asylum rules.

It would give the Homeland Security secretary the power to stop migrants from entering the United States if the secretary determines the U.S. has lost "operational control" of the border.

And it would make it more difficult for asylum-seekers to prove in initial interviews

that they are fleeing political, religious or racial persecution, impose a \$50 fee on adults who apply for asylum and require migrants to make the asylum claim at an official port of entry.

The bill would also enact a Trump-era policy that the Biden administration is pursuing, the so-called "safe third country" requirement, which generally denies asylum to migrants who show up at the U.S. southern border without first seeking protection in a country they passed through.

Conservative hardliners who say migrants are taking advantage of the asylum process are backing the bill.

Asia

UN may leave Afghanistan

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United Nations is ready to take the “heartbreaking” decision to pull out of Afghanistan in May if it can’t persuade the Taliban to let local women work for the organization, the head of the U.N. Development Program said.

U.N. officials are negotiating with the Afghan government in the hope that it will make exceptions to an edict this month barring local women from U.N. work, UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner told The Associated Press.

“It is fair to say that where we are right now is the entire United Nations system having to take a step back and reevaluating its ability to operate there,” Steiner said. “But it’s not about negotiating fundamental principles, human rights.”

The UNDP said Tuesday that it “reaffirms its longstanding commitment to stay and deliver for the people of Afghanistan.” Secretary-General António Guterres’ spokesman, Stéphane Dujarric, said that the United Nations continues “to push back on this counterproductive, to say the least, edict

Kim: North Korea’s 1st spy satellite is ready for launch

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said his country has built its first-ever military spy satellite and that he planned to launch it on an undisclosed date, state media reported Wednesday.

Previous missile and rocket tests have demonstrated that North Korea can send satellites into space, but many experts question whether it has cameras sophisticated enough to use for spying from a satellite because only low-resolution images were released after past launches.

During his visit to the country’s aerospace agency Tuesday, Kim said that having an operational military reconnaissance satellite is crucial for North Korea to effectively use its nuclear-capable missiles. Kim cited what he described as serious security threats posed by “the most hostile rhetoric and explicit action” by the United States and South Korea this year, according to the official Korean Central News Agency. He likely hopes to pressure his rivals on issues

by the authorities.”

The Taliban have allowed Afghan women to engage in some work, Steiner said, and a U.N. report released Tuesday shows that the country desperately needs more women working, with its economy flailing.

The Taliban takeover has been accompanied by some very modest signs of economic recovery. There has been some increase in exports, some exchange rate stabilization and less inflation. But gross domestic product, the sum of all goods and services produced within Afghanistan’s borders, is expected to be outstripped by population growth, meaning that per capita income will decline from \$359 in 2022 to \$345 in 2024, the report says.

Some of those economic problems are due to Taliban policies keeping most women out of the workplace, Steiner said. Those economic problems mean more need in the country, but the U.N. has decided that human rights are non-negotiable and it will reduce its presence in May if the Taliban do not relent.

“I think there is no other way of putting it than heartbreak-

ing,” Steiner said in Monday’s interview. “I mean, if I were to imagine the U.N. family not being in Afghanistan today, I have before me these images of millions of young girls, young boys, fathers, mothers, who essentially will not have enough to eat.”

A source of faint optimism is the Taliban’s allowing women to work in specific circumstances in health, education and some small businesses.

“In one sense, the de facto authorities have enabled the U.N. to roll out a significant humanitarian and also emergency development assistance set of activities,” Steiner said. “But they also continuously are shifting the goalposts, issuing new edicts.”

Despite initial promises of a more moderate rule than during their previous stint in power in the 1990s, the Taliban have imposed harsh measures since taking over the country in 2021 as U.S. and NATO forces were pulling out of Afghanistan after two decades of war.

World

Ukraine war poised for new phase



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy poses for a selfie with a soldier at a position in Avdiivka, Donetsk region, Ukraine, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin visited command posts of his forces fighting in Ukraine for the second time in two months, officials said Tuesday, while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy made his latest trip near the front line.

The visits—on different

official federal government website on Tuesday listed a Patriot surface-to-air guided missile system as among the military items delivered within the past week to Ukraine.

Ukraine has been pressing for Patriots and other air defense systems from its allies for months, and Germany’s appeared to be the first to have arrived. Ukrainian air force spokesman Yuriy Ihnat declined to confirm Tuesday that a Patriot is in Ukraine, local media outlet RBC-Ukraine reported, while stating that receiving the missiles would be a landmark event, allowing Ukrainians to knock down Russian targets at a greater distance.

Elsewhere, Kremlin video showed Putin arriving by helicopter at the command post of Russian forces in southern Ukraine’s Kherson province, then flying to the headquarters of the Russian National Guard in Luhansk province, in the country’s east. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said the visits took place Monday.

In Loving Memory of

†Joaquin Santos Pangelinan

Better known as “Jack”

Born to life on December 13, 1951, and was called to eternal rest on April 11, 2023.

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Daughters:	Kathy Pangelinan Josephine M. Kotmay
Reared Son:	Jesse James Pangelinan
Grandson:	Joaquin C. Pangelinan Aguon
Grand Daughters:	Lovitta Tinngig Kianna T. Kotmay

He will be missed by numerous family and friends.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at Mount Carmel Cathedral Church. Responso will begin at 8:00 am followed by public viewing and mass at 10:00 am.

Our family is eternally grateful for all the kind words of condolences and acts of kindness.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

From Lovitta Tinngig/ Joaquin Aguon and Family



Environment

Spain's Barcelona faces drought 'emergency' in September

AP
A green pedal boat is tied to a dock in a dried part of the Sau reservoir, about 100 km (62 miles) north of Barcelona, Spain, Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Authorities in Spain's parched northeast warned Tuesday that Barcelona and a wide surrounding area that's home to some 6 million people could face even tighter restrictions of water use in the coming months.

Samuel Reyes, head of Catalonia's Water Agency that manages water resources for the area encompassing Barcelona and other smaller cities in Spain's northeastern corner, said the area would likely be declared in a "drought emergency" by September unless forecasts for scant rain prove incorrect.

"Unless it rains in the spring and summer, there won't be any increases in the reservoirs and we will enter a stage of emergency for the Llobregat river system sometime around September," Reyes said.

The Ter-Llobregat river system provides the main water supply for Barcelona, Girona and other smaller towns and villages. Spain's government said Tuesday that its reservoirs, along with others in northern Catalonia, have shrunk to 27% of capacity. Only the reservoirs connected to the Guadalquivir river basin in southern Andalusia are worse off, at 26% of capacity.

Reyes said many of Catalonia's rivers are at historic lows after a drought that has broken all records for the region and forced authorities to start limiting water use for agriculture and industry last year. Town halls have also been asked to stop filling public foun-

tains, and limits on other uses are in place. There is an open debate now about whether or not to fill swimming pools in the summer, with many cities saying they

...many of Catalonia's rivers are at historic lows after a drought that has broken all records for the region...

are ideal "climate shelters."

In an extraordinary effort to save every last drop of water, authorities successfully moved some 13 cubic hectometers of water from Catalonia's Sau reservoir in recent weeks. In order to ensure the

quality of water and avoid a massive die-off of fish, authorities culled 4,000 fish belonging to invasive species. Reyes' agency said on Tuesday that that process had concluded.

Sau is now one of three reservoirs that Catalonia's firefighters have said they will no longer be able to use to reload water to fight wildfires. Most of Spain is bracing for a difficult wildfire season with forests dry and temperatures expected to remain high after a record-hot 2022.

"Drought has become the principle concern of this country," said Patricia Plaja, spokeswoman for the Catalan government.

Under current restrictions, Catalonia's cities are limited to using 230 liters of water per

person per day, including personal use as well as what the town hall uses per inhabitant for services like street cleaning. That would drop to 200 liters per day under the "emergency" phase of Catalonia's drought plan. The water agency says that the average person consumes some 116 liters per day for domestic use.

Catalonia's government is proposing regional legislation that would allow it to impose fines on cities that use too much water.

Catalonia faced a severe drought in 2008 and used tankers to ship in water for Barcelona. Reyes told The Associated Press recently that his agency would not recommend for that method to be used again, nor would it back a possible rerouting of water from the much larger basin of the Ebro river in Catalonia's south.

G7 energy, environment leaders haggle over climate strategy

SAPPORO, Japan (AP)—Energy and environment ministers of the Group of Seven wealthy nations met Saturday in northern Japan, seeking to reconcile the world's heavy reliance on fossil fuels with the urgency of ending carbon emissions to stave off the worst consequences of climate change.

The meetings in the northern Japanese city of Sapporo are aimed at forging a consensus on the best way forward, ahead of the G-7 summit in Hiroshima in May.

"We are facing the challenge of promoting reforms to resolve climate change ... and achieving energy security at the same time," economy minister Yasutoshi Nishimura told the ministers as the meetings began.

Speaking on the sidelines of the meetings, U.S. Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry said the G-7 was "powerfully positioned to be able to lead" in the effort to stem global warming. "We appreciate Japan's leadership and its stewardship of G-7 this year."

But differences persist over how, and how quickly, to end carbon emissions, especially at a time when the war in Ukraine has deepened concerns over energy security, complicating that effort.

The talks in Sapporo will also focus on biodiversity loss and other global challenges. But climate change tops the agenda of the closed door meetings. At the G-7 summit last year in Germany, the countries set a common goal of achieving a fully or predominantly decarbonized electricity supply by 2035.

U.S. officials voiced support for Japan's strategy centering on so-called clean coal, hydrogen and nuclear energy to bridge the transition to renewable energy. Others are pushing for a faster transition to renewable energy.

The head of the United Nations recently called for an end to new fossil fuel exploration and for rich countries to quit coal, oil and gas by 2040. While emissions among the G-7 nations, especially in

Europe, have begun falling, they are still rising globally, especially in big, increasingly affluent economies like India and China.

The G-7 nations hope to lead by example, U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm said in an interview Friday with The Associated Press.

"We expect that those countries see that this can be done and the nations that have the wherewithal to make these investments to be first out give hope to others to be able to do it as the technology lowers the cost," she said.

The U.S. government's approval of fossil fuel initiatives such as the Willow project on Alaska's petroleum-rich North Slope have drawn criticism for their environmental impact and for running counter to President Joe Biden's pledges to cut carbon emissions and move to clean energy.

There's a strong business case for climate-friendly policies, Granholm said, given the estimated \$23 trillion global market in clean energy by 2030.

"People see people getting jobs in this area. People who start to drive electric vehicles who don't need to pay gasoline prices know that it's much cheaper to drive EVs. It's all becoming obvious to people," she said while touring the Suiso Frontier, the world's first and only liquid hydrogen carrier, a showcase of the latest technology for what Japan's leaders call a "hydrogen society."

While Japanese farm fields increasingly are sown with solar panels rather than crops and its gusty coastlines are studded with wind turbines, the country still expects for about 60% of its energy to come from fossil fuels in 2030, with renewables accounting for up to 38%. New fuels and nuclear power would account for the rest.

Meanwhile, Japan is scrambling to protect communities from extreme weather and other impacts from global warming. Sweltering summers, torrential downpours that trigger flooding and landslides, and violent storms have become the norm.

Environmental groups suing EU over green label for gas, nuclear

BRUSSELS (AP) —Environmental groups have started legal action against the European Union's executive branch in a bid to block a move to include natural gas and nuclear power generation on a list of sustainable activities.

The list proposed by the European Commission drew fierce criticism and accusations of greenwashing. On Tuesday, Greenpeace said that it was filing a lawsuit at the European Court of Justice, the top EU court, after the commission refused to reconsider its move.

Greenpeace is asking the European Court of Justice to declare the inclusion of fossil gas and nuclear "as invalid."

Separately, ClientEarth, WWF's European Policy Office, Transport & Environment (T&E), and BUND are challenging only the decision to include gas. They say the fossil fuel can't be considered sustain-

able because of its adverse environmental impact.

The green labeling system from the European Commission defines what qualifies as an investment in sustainable energy. Initially, it didn't initially include gas or nuclear.

"Polluters are already using this fake label to syphon green finance away from where it's needed," Greenpeace EU sustainable finance campaigner Ariadna Rodrigo said. "If you save money with a green pension fund, for example, that fund could now be supporting the expansion of the fossil fuel and nuclear industries. That's unacceptable, and that's why we're in court today."

Amid Russia's war in Ukraine, the addition of gas and nuclear has divided the EU's 27 member countries, and even political groupings in the European Parliament. But EU lawmakers last year voted to back the European Commission's proposal and add both to the list.

Life & Style

Netflix to bring down the curtain on its DVD-by-mail service

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Netflix is poised to shut down the DVD-by-mail rental service that set the stage for its trailblazing video streaming service, ending an era that began a quarter century ago when delivering discs through the mail was considered a revolutionary concept.

The DVD service, which still delivers films and TV shows in the red-and-white envelopes that once served as Netflix's emblem, plans to mail its final discs on Sept. 29.

Netflix ended March with

232.5 million worldwide subscribers to its video streaming service, but it stopped disclosing how many people still pay for DVD-by-mail delivery years ago as that part of its business steadily shrank. The DVD service generated \$145.7 million in revenue last year, which translated into somewhere between 1.1 million and 1.3 million subscribers, based on the average prices paid by customers.

The growth of Netflix's video streaming service has been slowing down over the past

year, prompting management to put more emphasis on boosting profits. That focus may have also contributed to the decision to close an operation that was becoming a financial drain.

But the DVD service was once Netflix's biggest money maker.

Shortly before Netflix broke it off from video streaming in 2011, the DVD-by-mail service boasted more than 16 million subscribers. That number has steadily dwindled and the service's eventual demise became

apparent as the idea of waiting for the U.S. Postal Service to deliver entertainment became woefully outdated.

But the DVD-by-mail service still has die-hard fans who continue to subscribe because they treasure finding obscure movies that aren't widely available on video streaming. Many subscribers still wax nostalgic about opening their mailbox and seeing the familiar red-and-white envelopes awaiting them instead of junk mail and a stack of bills.

"Those iconic red enve-

lopes changed the way people watched shows and movies at home—and they paved the way for the shift to streaming," Netflix co-CEO Ted Sarandos wrote in a blog post about the DVD service's forthcoming shutdown.

The service's history dates back to 1997 when Netflix co-founder Marc Randolph went to a post office in Santa Cruz, California, to mail a Patsy Cline compact disc to his friend and fellow co-founder Reed Hastings. Randolph, Netflix's original CEO, wanted to test whether a disc could be delivered through the U.S. Postal Service without being damaged, hoping eventually to do the same thing with the still-new format that

became the DVD.

The Patsy Cline CD arrived at Hastings' home unblemished, prompting the duo in 1998 to launch a DVD-by-mail rental website that they always knew would be supplanted by even more convenient technology.

"It was planned obsolescence, but our bet was that it would take longer for it to happen than most people thought at the time," Randolph said in an interview with The Associated Press last year across the street from the Santa Cruz post office where he mailed the Patsy Cline CD. Hastings replaced Randolph as Netflix's CEO a few years after its inception, a job he didn't relinquish until stepping down in January.

Coroner: Aaron Carter drowned in tub from drug, inhalant

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Singer and rapper Aaron Carter accidentally drowned in his bathtub as a result of sedatives he'd taken and gas used in spray cleaners he had inhaled, a coroner's report said Tuesday.

Carter, the younger brother of the Backstreet Boys' Nick Carter, was found submerged and dead at age 34 in the bathtub of his home in Lancaster, California, on Nov. 5, the autopsy report from the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner said.

Sheriff's deputies had been

the last people to see Carter alive when they visited his house at 2 a.m. on Nov. 4 for a welfare check after he had been seen and heard "huffing" an inhalant on an Instagram live video, according to

a police report included in the autopsy findings. He asked the deputies to leave, and they did.

The autopsy found that the sedative alprazolam, often sold under the brand name Xanax, was found in his system, as was the compressed gas difluoro-



Carter

ethane, which the report says is "a gas commonly used as a propellant in air spray cleaners," which "can induce feelings of euphoria when inhaled."

The two substances incapacitated him in the tub, and caused the drowning, the report said.

Later in the evening, after deputies checked on Carter, he missed an appointment with a drug counselor, the police report said.

The following day, a person whom authorities called

a house sitter at the time but whom the report identifies in quotes as a "housekeeper" came to Carter's house to offer him coffee. She let herself in when she got no response and heard his dogs barking, according to the report.

The woman found him submerged, wearing a T-shirt and necklace, in a Jacuzzi-style tub with the jets running, and called 911. The operator told her to pull him out and perform CPR, according to the report. Paramedics immediately declared him dead when they arrived.

J-Hope becomes 2nd BTS member to join South Korean army

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—J-Hope, a member of K-pop sensation BTS, entered a South Korean boot camp Tuesday to start his 18-month compulsory military service, becoming the group's second member to join the country's army.

There was heated public debate in 2022 over whether to offer special exemptions of mandatory military service for BTS members, until the group's management agency

announced in October that all seven members would fulfill their duties.

In December, Jin, 30 and the oldest member of BTS, became the band's first member to enter the army after revoking his request to delay his conscription.

South Korean TV footage Tuesday afternoon showed what they called a black minivan likely carrying J-Hope moving into the boot camp in Wonju, about 90 kilometers (55 miles) east of Seoul. Hybe

Corp., the parent company of BTS' management agency Big Hit Music, later confirmed the 29-year-old singer entered the camp.

Dozens of fans showed up near the base after arriving via rented buses wrapped with large photos of J-Hope and words hoping for his safe service. Authorities mobilized soldiers and police officers to maintain order, and there



J-Hope

were no immediate reports of safety-related accidents. Big Hit Music had pleaded with fans, who call themselves the "Army," not to come to the site due to safety reasons.

"I love you, Army. I'll see you again," J-Hope, whose real name is Jung Ho-seok, said Monday in a message posted on the online fan platform Weverse, with photos of himself with a military buzz cut.

Liz Cheney memoir 'Oath and Honor' coming in November

NEW YORK (AP)—Former Rep. Liz Cheney has a memoir and a "warning" coming out this fall. In "Oath and Honor," she will write about her estrangement from former President Donald



Cheney

Trump and the Republican Party in the aftermath of the Jan. 6 siege of the U.S. Capitol.

"The last two years have shown us once again that our constitutional republic is not self-sustaining," Cheney said in a statement released Tuesday by Little, Brown and Company, which will publish her book November 14.

"It survives only because of the courage and honor of individual Americans. When history looks back on this time, each elected official will have to answer the questions:

Did we do our duty? Were we faithful to our oath of office?" Cheney said.

Cheney, daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney, had been a leading Republican voice for years. But she parted with many of her colleagues over Trump's false claims of voting fraud and her position as vice chair of the Congressional committee that looked into the insurrection on Jan. 6, 2021. Cheney has said she wants to ensure that Trump, who has announced his candidacy for 2024, will never be president again.

Once a dominant presence in Wyoming politics, she was defeated in the Republican primary last summer by Harriet Hageman, who had been endorsed by Trump.

Stepmom's safety concerns are a weighty family issue

DEAR ABBY: I married a widower eight years ago, and we are very happy. However, his three grown daughters were angry that he moved on with his life after the death of their mother. To keep peace in the family, I have tried to "kill them with kindness," and while we've made progress, I feel they take advantage of me and sometimes treat me with disrespect.

Although we don't swim often, we go to the expense of opening our pool every summer so the children and grandchildren can swim. Frequently when I check the pool after they leave, I find my pool floats have been damaged or destroyed. All three of his daughters are very large women. Not once have they mentioned that they damaged the floats or offered to replace them.

I bought a new chair for my deck recently and noticed that it has a weight limit of 250 pounds. At least two of his daughters—maybe all three—exceed the weight limit. I'm considering selling the chair because I'm afraid someone will get hurt. Is there a way to let them know they shouldn't try out my new chair without it turning into an awkward situation?

POOL PROTECTOR

DEAR POOL PROTECTOR: Unless you want to be perceived as the "wicked stepmother," your husband should handle this delicate subject. HE should point out to his

daughters that if they or their children break something, he expects them to tell the two of you about it. If it happens repeatedly, they should either replace the item or bring one of their own.

Because you are concerned his daughters will break the chair, consider buying foam mats they and their kids can cover with beach towels and use when they are on the patio. Furniture you do not want them to use should not be made available to them.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: Would it be wrong to tell my ex-husband's girlfriend (who he left me for) that he still tells me he loves me and can't move on because of me? He says it no matter how many times I have told him I don't ever want him back. He has also said he doesn't plan to remarry, despite the fact that she wants to get married and is being led to believe he loves her and wants to marry her. (I have the text messages to prove it.)

I don't want her to be hurt like I was. She moved away from her family to be with him. She has no family here, but she has a great job, and he's just using her for her money. I know I shouldn't care, but I think she should know how he feels. I hate that he's lying to her and using her. Should I send her the texts I have or leave well enough alone?

WANTS TO WARN IN THE SOUTH

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR WANTS: You can try to warn this woman by sharing the texts your ex has sent to you. You probably will not be believed if you do, but at least your conscience will be clear, and you can go on with your life. May I make one more suggestion? Block him on your devices. Your ex is very bad news.

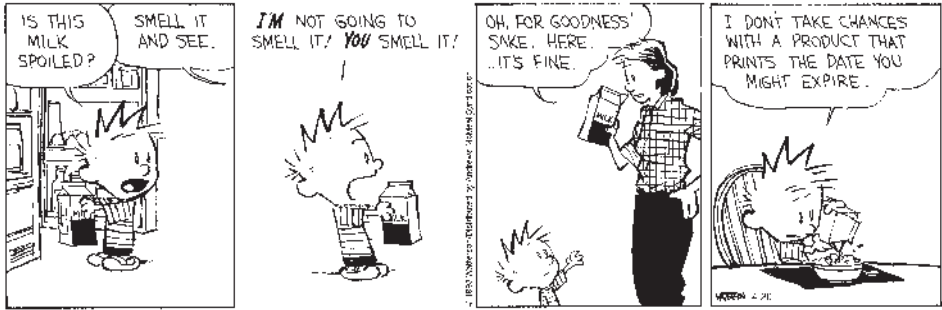
■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

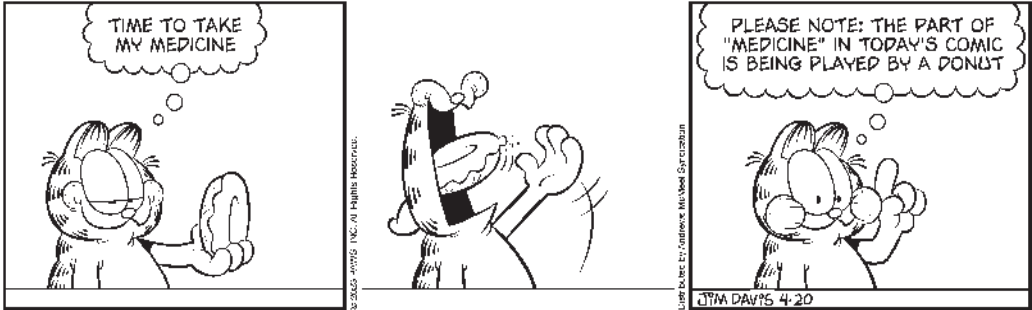
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



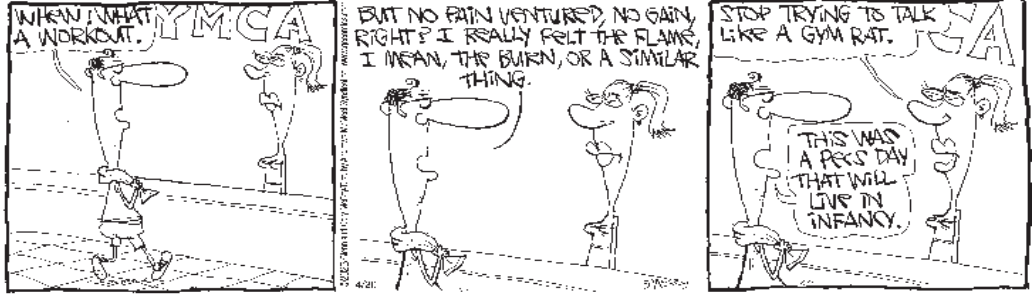
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Now, in a memo

5 Scarlet

8 Molt

12 Taboo

13 Multi-purpose truck

14 Glasses holder

15 "Peter Pan" dog

16 Beirut's land (Abbr.)

17 Sciences' partner

18 Delphi figure

20 50-and-over org.

22 Rare

26 Rainbow-shaped

29 "A mouse!"

30 — Paulo, Brazil

31 String

32 Hosp. workers

33 Words to a backstabber

34 601, to Cato

35 Luau dish

DOWN

1 Part of A.D.

2 Fly high

3 Author

4 Prepared eggs

5 Monarch

6 Giverny summer

7 Campaign events

8 Muffler

9 "Angelic" musicians

10 Ballpark fig.

11 —

19 Young bloke

21 Fine, at NASA

23 Jeans material

24 Cager

25 Gloomy

26 Outlet letters

27 Cape —, Portugal

28 Forensic facility

32 Not as cramped

33 Tolerated

35 School support org.

36 Popular card game

38 Surplus

39 Things

42 Pop flavor

43 "So be it"

44 Bottle part

45 Witticism

46 Flightless bird

48 The Browns, on scoreboards

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-20

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Felix Mallard, 25; Joey Lawrence, 47; Carmen Electra, 51; Jessica Lange, 74.

Happy Birthday: Declutter your home and turn it into a relaxing space. Feeling comfortable will improve your overall performance this year. Reconnect with people, projects and pastimes, and revive what you miss. It's up to you to build your world to your specifications and to give others the right to do the same. Strive for balance, integrity and being at your best. Your numbers are 4, 10, 19, 23, 34, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Anger is a waste of time. Size up a situation, change what you don't like and move on to something more entertaining than aggravating. Updating your image may sound inviting, but before you begin, consider your motives. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be eager to take charge and do things your way. Set standards, call on people you trust to do things according to your instructions and don't subject yourself to situations that can cause physical or financial limitations. Get sufficient rest. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Rely on what and who you know to carry you through turbulent times. Keep your thoughts and intentions to yourself and avoid a superior who gives you a hard time. Sign up for a course that will broaden your awareness and your skills. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Offer your expertise to those in need, and the rewards will surpass your expectations. ***

Your drive, attention to detail and creative input will make others greedy for more. Put yourself first and know when to leave the mindless tasks to others. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a close look at what others are doing and how they react. A reserved approach when discussing money matters will encourage good results. Offer incentives, but don't leave yourself footing the bill or running short on cash due to generosity. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be open to fresh concepts and ready to learn something new. Talk to an expert if something perplexes you. Taking on too much too fast will be costly and stressful. Protect your reputation; promise only what's possible. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't lose sight of your budget. Monitor your money, health and contracts closely to minimize mistakes, confusion and loss. An offer will not be as good as someone leads you to believe. Ask questions if you have doubts. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Size up your situation and follow your plans. Don't hesitate to let someone slow you down. Stay focused on what you want, and adjust swiftly to the changes you make. A shift in your living arrangements will add to your security. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let pride put you in a vulnerable position. Listen and only agree to what's feasible. Focus on self-improvement and matters you can handle by yourself. Don't commit to something or someone, or promise to avoid conflict; say no. ***

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	3											
2			8	3							1	
	8		7			5						
4			1		8			3				
	2		9				1	4	5			
			2		4			6	8			
	7	8									2	
					1							
		9	3		7	4				6		

Difficulty: ★★★

4-20

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Maintaining a simple lifestyle will make it easy for you to live up to your expectations. The keys to happiness are to earn your living doing something you enjoy and using your downtime to do more with the ones you love. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sharing too much information will cause friction with someone you least expect. Don't present your plans until you have worked out all the kinks and have something hard to refuse to submit to those you need to complete your plans. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You've got the wheel and the go-ahead to take the lead. Entertain others with your vision and see who wants to tag along. Make no allowances for those waffling over whether to join your team; take those ready to commit. ****

Birthday Baby: You are ambitious, persistent and energetic. You are tightfisted and focused.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PUMPKIN RAVIOLI Solution: 9 letters

T R A D I T I O N E H C T I K
R D M M N E Z O R F O A P H C
O R A P E A S K I L L E T S H
F A R E E A I T M A I N S I E
M I E G N I L L I F V I T D E
O N T G Z K C C A S E T U E S
C E T I S L R I N P G T O H F L E
H N I E N E N F C I C F O D
R I O A A P I L S E L T I R A
I B M G P N A I L C R A N E M
S M R E O V B N W O R B G S E
T O R S O N A S E M R A P S M
M C A R A M E L I Z E D T A O
A E C N A S S I A N E R I C H
S S E L E M I T O A S T E D H

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Amaretti, Batch, Biscotti, Boil, Brown, Caramelized, Casserole, Cheese, Christmas, Combine, Comfort, Cream, Dish, Drain, Eggs, Filling, Flavor, Frozen, Homemade, Italian, Kitchen, Knead, Main, Meal, Olive Oil, Organic, Parmesan, Pepper, Renaissance, Rich, Roller, Scratch, Seasonings, Skillet, Stuffing, Timeless, Toasted, Tradition

Yesterday's Answer: Magic Moments

The NEW Volume 70 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Garland scores 32, Cavs beat Knicks to even series



CLEVELAND (AP)—Darius Garland couldn't change what happened in a disappointing playoff debut.

On Tuesday night, Garland made sure he didn't repeat it.

Setting the tone with his aggressiveness from the start, Garland scored 26 of his 32 points in the first half and the Cavaliers evened their Eastern Conference playoff series against New York at one game apiece with a 107-90 victory.

"That's the All-Star we know, and it was good to see," said Cavs guard Donovan Mitchell, one of many who urged Garland to be more assertive. "He came out with a purpose. There was just a different look in his eye."

Garland scored 15 points in the second quarter, when Cleveland tightened down defensively and dominated New York, forcing nine turnovers on the way to opening a 20-point halftime lead. The Cavs pushed their lead to 29 in the fourth.

For two days, Garland had beaten himself up for his performance in Game 1, when he didn't attempt a shot in the fourth quarter and finished with one assist in 43 minutes. During film sessions, his teammates pointed out moments when he needed to shoot. Everywhere he went, he heard the same message.

"Everybody in the building told me to go be aggressive, go shoot the ball," he said. "I watched the film from the first game and seeing some opportunities where I can go get mine and go be aggressive and that's what I just tried to do today."

Cleveland's blowout ended with a hard foul and some questions about why New York's starters were still on the floor.

With the Knicks down by 23, Julius Randle went in for a breakaway dunk and was hit by Cavs center Jarrett Allen and New York's All-Star forward fell awkwardly out of bounds. Randle was upset by the contact and exchanged words with several Cavs players and coach J.B. Bickerstaff.

"I thought it was a little unnecessary," Randle said. "I understand that in the playoffs, you don't give up on plays. But typically, you run across the body. Not like that."

Allen was called for flagrant foul, which Bickerstaff felt was undeserved.

"They kept playing hard. They kept running through passing lanes. Why would one team play hard and not the other," he said. "There was nothing dirty about the



AP
Cleveland Cavaliers guard Darius Garland (10) shoots against New York Knicks center Mitchell Robinson during the first half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball first-round playoff series Tuesday, April 18, 2023, in Cleveland.

play. It wasn't a flagrant foul. He contested a shot at the rim. It's that simple."

Caris LeVert scored 24 points off the bench and Mitchell added 17 and a career playoff-high 13 assists for the Cavs, who were much more physical than in Game 1 and went toe to toe with the Knicks.

Randle scored 22 points and Jalen Brunson added 20 for New York, which got the split it needed in rowdy Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse to head home for Game 3 at Madison Square Garden on Friday night.

"You know what to expect," Randle said. "It's the Garden. It's the Garden."

The Cavs matched the Knicks' physicality from the outset, winning the 50/50 balls that went to New York in the opener. And if handling Cleveland's new-found toughness wasn't enough of a challenge, the Knicks bashed each other.

During one sequence in the second quarter as the Cavs were beginning to pull away, Randle turned to run up the floor and accidentally smacked Brunson in the face, causing his teammate to recoil in pain.

Garland inflicted his own damage.

The 23-year-old was uncharacteristically timid in Game 1 and heard about it from fans and teammates. Following practice Monday, he had a deep conversation with Mitchell, who urged him to be let loose.

Garland got the message.

He drained a pair of 3-pointers during a 13-4 run in the second quarter and

then showed no fear when he drove to the basket and tried to dunk over 7-foot Knicks center Isaiah Hartenstein, who got away with goaltending while fouling Cleveland's guard.

"I've never seen him try to dunk on anyone, let alone a seven-footer," Mitchell said.

The Cavs bench erupted at seeing Garland's bravado, and Mitchell slapped his hands before urging the sell-out crowd to recognize him. The moment seemed to rattle the Knicks as New York's Josh Hart was called for a technical foul.

CELTICS 119, HAWKS 106

BOSTON (AP)—Jayson Tatum knew what was coming and waited for his moment.

His team leading by 10 with less than three minutes to play, he hawked Atlanta's Trae Young as he dribbled on the right wing and tried to lead Tatum into a screen.

But the Celtics All-Star brushed it off and stretched to swat Young's attempt at a step-back 3-pointer. The loose ball was scooped up by Derrick White and tossed ahead to a streaking Tatum for an one-handed dunk.

The play ended a clinching late run and was the final basket of the night for Tatum and Boston beat Atlanta 119-106 on Tuesday night to take a 2-0 lead in the first-round playoff series.

While Tatum had the exclamation point and finished with 29 points and 10 rebounds, he said the night belonged to White. The defensive-minded guard contributed all over the court,

pouring 26 points, seven rebounds and three blocks.

"We're so much more of a dynamic team when D-White is asserting himself and being aggressive and not being passive," Tatum said. These last two games (White) being aggressive, making the right play, attacking the rim and not necessarily waiting makes us that much more of a better team."

Jaylen Brown added 18 points. Boston outscored Atlanta 64-40 in the paint. Game 3 is Friday night in Atlanta.

"(Tatum and Brown) get a lot of attention. It just opens up the court for myself," White said. "When the opportunity is there I just have to attack and do what I do."

Dejounte Murray led the Hawks with 29 points. Young had 24, but shot 9 of 22 from the field and 2 of 8 from beyond the arc. He also had five turnovers, bringing his total to 11 for the series.

"I can be better," Young said. "I didn't shoot the ball really well. I had some turnovers where I was just driving and it just left my hands. But I'm going to be better at home."

Down by 20, the Hawks cut it to single digits late in the third quarter.

With Atlanta trailing 74-57, Young went to the bench and sat out the final 7:07 of the period, briefly visiting the locker room.

His teammates picked it up without him, outscoring the Celtics 24-16 to pull within nine—at 90-81—entering the fourth.

Young returned to begin the final period and scored four straight points with just

over five minutes to play to make it 104-95.

But the Celtics responded with a 15-2 run—bookended by a 3-pointer and Tatum's dunk—to get it back up to 119-97 with 2:16 left.

While the Hawks brought a better shooting touch on Tuesday, the Celtics took their overall energy up a notch, repeatedly beating Atlanta down the court in transition and outhustling Hawks to loose balls.

One glaring example was in the second quarter when Brown pried the ball free as DeAndre Hunter drove by.

Malcolm Brogdon corralled it and tossed it ahead a sprinting Brown, who had split between Young and Dejounte Murray as they got caught ball watching.

"We've been a group that's hung our hat on defense all year," Brown said. "We play both sides of the ball and we do it at a high level. Sometimes it goes unnoticed. ... But when it comes down to it, the playoffs, that's where our defense matters the most."

SUNS 123, CLIPPERS 109

PHOENIX (AP)—Kevin Durant is the shiny new toy for the Phoenix Suns. Devin Booker is still the team's heart and soul.

Booker—the three-time All-Star who has spent all eight of his NBA seasons in Phoenix—scored 38 points, Durant added 25 and the Suns beat the Los Angeles Clippers 123-109 on Tuesday night in Game 2 to tie the Western Conference first-round series.

"He's an all-around play-

er," Durant said about Booker. "He can do everything at an elite level on a basketball court."

The Suns needed a gritty effort after a disappointing loss in Game 1. Their shots weren't falling for much of the first half and they fell into a 13-point hole midway through the second quarter.

But led by Booker, they never panicked.

The 26-year-old drilled a 3 just before the halftime buzzer to tie it and scored 18 points in the third quarter on 7-of-8 shooting, helping the Suns push to a 92-87 advantage entering the fourth. The defense also improved after the Clippers got several easy baskets in the second quarter.

"People talk about adjustments all the time and we make them," Suns coach Monty Williams said. "But sometimes basketball is just being able to sit down and guard the ball, keep your man from getting to the basket and contesting the shot."

Phoenix never trailed in the final quarter, slowly pulling away. It was their first playoff win with Durant on the floor. The team was 8-0 during the regular season with the 13-time All-Star following his trade from the Brooklyn Nets in February.

The series moves to Los Angeles for Game 3 on Thursday night.

Kawhi Leonard led Los Angeles with 31 points after he scored 38 in Game 1. Russell Westbrook added 28 points on 9-of-16 shooting.

"We know it is going to be a tough series," Westbrook said. "They came back and took care of business tonight."

Booker had a stellar shooting night, connecting on 14 of 22 shots, including 4 of 7 on 3s. He added nine assists. Deandre Ayton added 14 points—on 7-of-10 shooting—and 13 rebounds. Torrey Craig hit 5 of 8 3s and had 17 points, and Chris Paul had 16 points and eight assists.

"We tried to blitz. We tried to fire. We did a lot of different things," Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said. "They played great."

Several Suns players credited the Clippers coaches and players for their unpredictable defensive sets, which they said was part of the reason for the team's slow start.

"They switched their defense up like every possession," Durant said. "They might double, they might triple, they might go zone, they might go full court press. So they're trying to throw us off with their coverages. I think we did a good job of (eventually) figuring it out. Just playing simple."

Kershaw gets 200th win, pitches Dodgers past Mets 5-0



LOS ANGELES
(AP) — Clayton

Kershaw delivered a vintage performance for his 200th win, pitching seven splendid innings of three-hit ball as the Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the New York Mets 5-0 on Tuesday night.

J.D. Martinez homered twice off Tylor Megill (3-1) and drove in four runs, finishing with four hits to help the Dodgers stop New York's five-game winning streak.

Kershaw (3-1) struck out nine to pass Mickey Lolich for 22nd place on the career list with 2,833 strikeouts. The three-time Cy Young Award winner improved to 200-88 in 405 games (402 starts) over 16 major league seasons—the best winning percentage among the 117 pitchers to win 200 games.

The only one of them with a lower career ERA than Kershaw is Hall of Famer Walter Johnson.

Kershaw allowed three singles and no walks, moving to 11-0 with a 2.03 ERA in 17 regular-season starts against the Mets. Evan Phillips and Brusdar Graterol finished the four-hitter, Los Angeles' first shutout this season.

ANGELS 5, YANKEES 2

NEW YORK (AP)—Shohei Ohtani homered on the 100th anniversary of the original Yankee Stadium, following Babe Ruth's example with a loud two-run drive in the first inning that sent Los Angeles past New York.

In a starry matchup that included three AL MVPs, Ohtani turned on an 88.7 mph sweeper from Clarke Schmidt (0-1) and hit a 116.7 mph shot into the Yankees bullpen in right-center, his fourth homer of the season.

Mike Trout, the 2014, '16 and '19 MVP, singled and doubled for the Angels. Reigning AL MVP Aaron Judge hit a sacrifice fly in a two-run fourth for the Yankees after Andrew Wantz (1-0) walked rookie Anthony Volpe with the bases loaded.

PHILLIES 7, WHITE SOX 4, GAME 1 WHITE SOX 3, PHILLIES 0, GAME 2

CHICAGO (AP)—Lucas Giolito and four relievers combined on a one-hitter to give Chicago a split of its doubleheader with Philadelphia.

Brandon Marsh had Philadelphia's only hit in the second game, an opposite-field double to left on reliever Aaron Bummer's first pitch of the eighth inning.

Giolito was pulled after throwing 102 pitches in six innings. He struck out seven, walked one and hit a batter.

Kendall Graveman retired the side on eight pitches in the seventh, Bummer got two outs in the eighth and Reynaldo Lopez set down the last four batters, striking out three, to earn his third save.

Jake Burger hit his fourth homer in five games, a three-run shot to left field in the first inning off left-hander Bailey Falter (1-2).

In the opener, Josh Harrison homered among his three hits and drove in four runs for the Phillies. Bryson Stott began the game with a single, extending his hitting streak to 17 games and surpassing the franchise record of 16 to start a season, set by Puddin' Head Jones in 1950. His streak ended in the nightcap.

Relievers Gregory Soto, Craig Kimbrel, Seranthony Dominguez and Jose Alvarado struck out eight while retiring all 12 White Sox batters they faced in the first game. Alvarado got his first save. Zack Wheeler (1-1) gave up four runs in five innings.

Chicago starter Lance Lynn (0-2) allowed five runs on a season-high 10 hits.

BRAVES 8, PADRES 1

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Spencer Strider and three relievers combined on a four-hitter and Matt Olson, Ozzie Albies and Sean Murphy each hit an impressive homer for NL East-leading Atlanta, which beat struggling San Diego.

The Braves have won eight straight, the longest active streak in the majors. The Padres have lost six of seven.

Strider (2-0) held the Padres hitless until Juan Soto singled on his 90th pitch, with one out in the sixth.

Murphy homered into the second deck in left field off Blake Snell (0-3) leading off the fourth.

RAYS 10, REDS 0

CINCINNATI (AP)—Taylor Walls homered twice and drove in four runs and rookie right-hander Taj Bradley dazzled in his second start for Tampa Bay.

Yandy Diaz hit a three-run homer, and Randy Arozarena also went deep for the major league-best Rays (15-3), who have homered in each of their first 18 games.

The 22-year-old Bradley (2-0) struck out nine and walked one in 5 1/3 innings. He has 17 combined strikeouts in his first two career starts, a Rays record.

Cincinnati's Nick Lodolo (2-1) gave up eight runs on 12 hits in 4 2/3 innings.

TIGERS 4, GUARDIANS 3, GAME 1 TIGERS 1, GUARDIANS 0, GAME 2

DETROIT (AP)—Riley Greene hit a sixth-inning homer and Eduardo Rodriguez pitched eight scoreless innings, helping



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw throws to the plate during the first inning of a baseball game against the New York Mets Tuesday, April 18, 2023, in Los Angeles.

Detroit sweep a doubleheader from Cleveland.

Rodriguez (1-2) allowed four hits, no walks and struck out 10 while matching the longest outing of his career.

Jason Foley pitched the ninth for his first save, sealing Detroit's fifth straight win. Cleveland's Peyton Battenfield (0-1) gave up three hits, including Greene's opposite-field homer to left field, and three walks in six innings.

In the opener, Kerry Carpenter hit game-ending solo homer off James Karinchak (0-3) with two outs in the ninth inning. Alex Lange (1-0) worked a scoreless ninth for the Tigers.

ORIOLES 1, NATIONALS 0

WASHINGTON (AP)—Dean Kremer pitched impressively into the seventh inning and Austin Hays singled home the game's only run in the fourth to lift Baltimore over Washington.

Kremer (1-0) allowed only four hits in 6 2/3 innings, striking out six without a walk. Danny Coulombe got the final out of the seventh, Yennier Cano breezed through the eighth and Félix Bautista pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

Josiah Gray (0-4) yielded a run and four hits. The Nationals have managed only one run in the four games he's started.

RED SOX 5, TWINS 4, 10 INNINGS

BOSTON (AP)—Alex Verdugo singled home the winning run with two outs in the 10th inning on a flyball that barely stayed fair as Boston

beat Minnesota.

Umpires needed a few minutes to review Verdugo's drive, which bounced off the low wall in Fenway Park's right field just short of Pesky's Pole, before officially declaring it a hit and the game over.

Reese McGuire had just tied it with a two-run single as the Red Sox rallied after allowing two runs in the top of the 10th. John Schreiber (1-0) got the win despite allowing two hits and a run. Red Sox starter Chris Sale struck out 11 batters in six innings, giving up one run.

Jovani Moran (0-1) yielded three runs on three hits in the 10th.

RANGERS 12, ROYALS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Marcus Semien hit a three-run homer during a five-run sixth inning, Adolis Garcia added another three-run homer in the eighth, and Texas pounced on Kansas City.

Texas (11-6) improved to five games over .500 for the first time since July 16, 2019. The Royals lost their fifth straight and fell to 1-11 at home.

Nathan Eovaldi (2-2) went six innings, allowing two runs on seven hits and a walk while striking out five.

Brad Keller (2-2) allowed three runs on three hits and five walks, including lead-off walks in three of his four innings.

DIAMONDBACKS 8, CARDINALS 7

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Gabriel Moreno hit a three-run homer

that capped a six-run fourth inning for Arizona against St. Louis' Jordan Montgomery.

Willson Contreras homered twice for the Cardinals, including a two-run shot off Andrew Chafin during St. Louis' three-run ninth. Miguel Castro got the last two outs for his first save.

Montgomery (2-2) allowed seven runs on 10 hits in four innings as his ERA jumped from 2.45 to 4.84.

Kyle Nelson (3-0), the second of seven Arizona pitchers, worked 1 1/3 scoreless innings in relief.

BLUE JAYS 4, ASTROS 2

HOUSTON (AP)—Matt Chapman homered and doubled, and Chris Bassitt carried a shutout in the seventh inning for Toronto.

Bassitt (2-2) allowed three hits and a walk in 6 1/3 innings. Jordan Romano got the last four outs for his seventh save.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and Chapman homered in the fourth against Houston's Jose Urquidy (1-1).

MARLINS 4, GIANTS 2

MIAMI (AP)—Jazz Chisholm Jr. hit a three-run homer in the fourth inning and Miami beat San Francisco, which lost starter Alex Wood because of a left hamstring strain in the third.

Edward Cabrera (1-1) limited the Giants to two runs and six hits in six innings. A.J. Puk closed with a scoreless ninth for his third save.

Chisholm's shot off Jakob Junis (2-1) put the Marlins ahead 4-2.

CUBS 4, ATHLETICS 0

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Cody Bellinger hit an RBI single to break a scoreless tie and ignite a four-run outburst in the eighth inning, and Chicago handed Oakland its sixth straight loss.

The Athletics fell to 3-15, matching the 1951 Philadelphia A's for the worst 18-game start in franchise history.

Marcus Stroman pitched six scoreless innings and struck out five. Mark Leiter Jr. (1-0) worked a scoreless seventh, and Michael Fulmer and Michael Rucker completed the two-hitter.

Oakland starter Ken Waldichuk pitched five scoreless innings. Reliever Trevor May (2-3) managed to get just one out and was charged with three runs.

PIRATES 5, ROCKIES 3

DENVER (AP)—Jack Suwinski homered twice and drove in three runs, Vince Velasquez recovered from a rough start to pitch six solid innings and Pittsburgh sent Colorado to its season-high seventh consecutive loss.

Connor Joe had a double and a triple against his former team, and Carlos Santana added a run-scoring double for the Pirates, who have won seven of their last nine road games.

Kris Bryant homered and Elias Díaz had a two-run double in the first for the Rockies. Velasquez (2-2) allowed five hits, only one after the first inning. He struck out seven and walked three.

David Bednar worked the ninth for his fifth save.

José Ureña (0-3) gave up five runs in 4 2/3 innings.

BREWERS 6, MARINERS 5, 11 INNINGS

SEATTLE (AP)—Willy Adames drove in the go-ahead run in the 11th inning and Milwaukee defeated Seattle.

Joey Weimer scored on Adames' RBI groundout against reliever Justin Topa (0-1). Adames finished with three RBIs, including a run-scoring double and a solo homer.

Christian Yelich hit a lead-off home run against Mariners starter Logan Gilbert and made it 2-0 with an RBI single in the third.

Cal Raleigh hit a two-run double for Seattle.

Garrett Mitchell scored in the 10th to give the Brewers the lead, but Ty France tied it back up the next inning with a sacrifice fly.

Bryste Wilson (1-0) got the win.

Peleliu slips past Asahi, 2-1

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER



Peleliu finally

snagged another win in the return of the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League after the Easter break against Asahi, 2-1 at the DanDan Softball Field last Sunday.

Peleliu hopped into the first inning and drew first blood after Asahi had nothing to show for in a 1-to-nothing game, thanks to an RBI single by Elmer Sablan.

Mabel Ngimgemelas pitched an immaculate game, giving up only nine hits and only one run which came in the fourth inning from Allen Teliu's single.

The Asahi lineup could not produce and was only hitting singles and grounders that led to easy outs. It was indeed a pitcher's duel because Peleliu would only score one more run in the fourth from Ray Villagomez's RBI single.

Tokahao 18, Wazzup 6

Tokahao run-ruled Wazzup,



LEIGH GASES

Peleliu's Walter Macaranas swings against Asahi pitcher Dominic Hideo during their game in the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the DanDan Softball Field.

18-6, for a shortened five-inning game.

Wazzup brought in only one run in the first inning off a sacrifice fly by Jun Lizama, then at Tokahao's at-bat, they brought in seven.

It was back-to-back singles

that led to consecutive RBI's and at the blink of an eye, it was 7-1.

Tokahao's Jeff Cruz smashed one out of the park in the second for a two-run shot after also a two run inning by Wazzup.

It was lights out for Wazzup when Tokahao went ballistic in the first inning and scored seven in the third; Wazzup could not make contact with the ball as they only scored three more runs and lost in a 12 run deficit.

Man Amigos 17, Tuteuramz 3

It was another shortened five-inning game as Man Amigos blew Tuteuramz out of the water, 17-3.

Eric Palacios from Man Amigos was responsible for seven RBI's as he homered in each of his at-bats, with a big home run in the fourth for a nine run inning.

Teammate Manny Sablan hit a lead-off home run himself in the second which started off a four run inning.

Meanwhile, Tuteuramz only mustered up three runs in the first, second, and fourth inning, and by the time the inning was over, Man Amigos had 16 runs. Man Amigos scored their last

run in the fifth inning and the game ended due to Tuteuramz' failure to score anymore.

Sufa 11, Aimeliik 1 Time 6

Aimeliik 1 Time has yet to win one time as Sufa defeated them, 11-6.

Pat Deleon Guerrero from Sufa hit a two-RBI home run in the fourth inning, followed by a

three-run home run by Jun Salalila for a seven run inning.

Aimeliik scored two runs in the second and fifth inning and only one in the third and last inning, while by the fifth, Sufa had already scored 11 runs.

Momma Charo 12, Redmen 6

Momma Charo doubled the Redmen's runs in their 12-6 win.

Geckos slay Eagles in HS boys v-ball

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER



The Saipan International School Geckos slayed the Grace Christian Academy Eagles in two sets, 21-17, 21-14, in the NMIVA-Public School System Boys High School Volleyball League 2022-2023 in the last game last Tuesday night at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Eagles could not take off with the win as the rotating roster of Seth Balakrishna, Ryan Daproza, Jasper Hall, Noah Lee, Miles Linden, Kyle San Hyun Moon, Akira Ota, Jack Raho, Tristan Raho, Julian Taitano, Jiahao Yang, Sui Yi, and Jiahang Wu were out-killed and out-blocked by the Geckos.

The Geckos' Omari Joab

had the most kills in the game as he was set up almost perfectly each time with the Eagles unable to block and return his spikes cleanly.

Yi had some aces up his sleeve during his serves but the Geckos came back on their well placed returns that caused some mistakes from the Eagles' six in the second set.

In the end, the Geckos pulled away with the seven-point deficit win as the last kill was made by Joab.

Casey Chambers, Dwight Crisostomo, Omari Joab, Dongyeon Kang, Kyle Kramer, Daniel Nam, Jesus Sablan, and Will Sosa.

In other results earlier in the afternoon, Mount Carmel School won against Saipan Southern High School 2, 21-19, 21-15; MHS 3 defeated SIS 2,

The first inning saw an eruption of nine runs from the lineup of Momma Charo and were silenced until the last inning when they scored three.

Even with no runs for five innings, they still managed to get the W because the Redmen could only bring in one run in the second, fourth, and sixth inning, with a three-run last inning.

21-10, 22-20; MCS 1 beat Kagman High School in three tough sets, 21-12, 21-15, 15-11; and SSHS 1 fell to Agape Christian School 1, 21-10, 21-12.

MHS 1 continues to lead the varsity standings at 7-0, followed by SIS' 7-1. GCA is at 5-2; ACS 1 and Tinian High School are tied at 4-3; SSHS 1 is 3-4; MCS 1 is 2-6; KHS is 1-6; and Rota High School is winless in seven games.

In junior varsity standings, MHS 2 has a 5-1 record, followed by MHS 3 at 3-2, SSHS 2 at 3-2; THS 2 at 3-1, SIS 2 at 1-3, ACS 2 at 1-4, and MCS 2 at 1-4.

The last regular season game is scheduled for today with the double-elimination championship tournament tourney set to start on Thursday, April 27, until Saturday, April 29.

SAVE

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final quarter.

Save More then scored more and then some in the payoff period as Mii Tekiupua and Joseph Torres combined for 18 points to lead a 33-22 run in their favor as they won running away.

Tekiupua led all scorers with 16 points, while Torres added 15 markers in support.

CK Saints were paced by the 14 points of Lushawen "Rock" Reyes with Kelvin Fitial and Leo Galarce adding 11 points each.

In the second game, New Chang Ming Market followed

the same script against Team Marianas in its 79-70 victory.

Team Marianas led by 3 points, 21-18, after the opening quarter before widening that to a mammoth 45-29 spread at intermission.

New Chang Ming Market then buckled down to work in the final 20 minutes of the game, doubling up the CNMI national men's basketball pool, 50-25, to complete the come-from-behind victory.

Gino Asauo and Rodel Pastrana took turns torturing Team Marianas' defense, scoring 20 points and 19 points, respectively.

Team Marianas was spear-

headed by the 14 points of Matthew Richardson and the 13 points of Eli Garcia.

In the opening ceremony prior to the doubleheader, Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee requested a moment of silence to honor the memory of Abner Venis, former Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands president, who died just last Monday.

Venus' son, Marc, also received a plaque of recognition from NMIBF as well as a promise from Lee that the opening day gate receipts will be donated to his family.

BANMI is the precursor of

the NMIBF and Venus was also one of the prime movers in getting the Budweiser Cup, which was what the "Mich" Ultra Cup was known before, off the ground more than two decades ago.

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang made the ceremonial opening jump ball, while speeches were made by Lee, Northern Marianas Sports Association secretary Valerie Hofschneider, and Mar-Pac Consumer sales manager

Thomas Basa.

32-41, 49-53, 82-65.

First Game

Save More 82—Tekiupua 16, Torres 15, Dancel 13, Lizama 8, Genese 7, Solis 6, Mejarito 3, Escano 2, Jandoc 2, Bernardo 2, Vicente 2.

CK Saints 65—R. Reyes 14, Fitial 11, Galarce 11, L. Reyes 8, Bahillo 4, Aughenough 4, Tudela 4, Yuccummang 4, Guerrero 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-24,

Second Game

New Chang Ming Market 79—Asau 20, Pastrana 19, Deleon Guerrero 13, Cruz 7, Gontar 4, Almario 2, Montes 2, Apasan 2.

Team Marianas 70—Richardson 14, Garcia 13, Aldan 11, C. Santos 11, Villarin 9, K. Santos 7, Raquipo 4, Sablan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-21, 29-45, 58-54, 79-70.

SHIRLEY'S

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with four wins, one draw, and one loss each. Kanoa has four wins and two losses; MPU FC has three wins, two draws, and one loss; Paire FC has two wins and four losses; while Tan Holdings and Matansa both have no wins, two draws, and four losses.

MSL 1

Tan Holdings 3, Paire 0

Tan Holdings held off Paire FC, 3-0 in Marianas Soccer League 1 last Sunday.

After a quiet first half, Ronnel Ocanada broke the silence with a goal in the 35th minute.

Paire was still finding their footing while Andon Eman made it 2-0 in the 56th minute. The third goal came in the 86th minute by Anthony Bergancia as Paire went home without a score on the board.

Kanoa 5, Eleven Tiger 0

Kanoa FC blanked Eleven Tiger 5-0 in the second MSL 1 game of the day.

Twenty minutes elapsed and still no goals were made, but Markus Toves finally snagged the net in the 21st minute.

Sebastien Manabat then made two goals with additional goals from Ian Maniago and Paul Lizama. Eleven Tiger had no fight left as the game ended.

MSL 2

MPU FC 6, Hana FC 1

In the first MSL 1 game, MPU FC had a lopsided victory over Hana FC, 6-1.

From the get-go, MPU FC had the upper hand as they scored just a minute into the game made by Jireh Yobech. Cody Shimizu followed suit in the fifth minute, then Hana finally made their goal in the 20th. However, they could not get any more goals as MPU FC denied each attempt.

Yobech and Shimizu made two more goals while Chris Aninzo and Casey Chambers made a goal each.

Old B Bank 2, Women's Development Team 1

Old B Bank put one more goal

over the Women's Development Team to win, 2-1 in the Marianas Soccer League 2 also played last Sunday.

Both goals were made by Jerseh Angeles in the 26th and 75th minute. Jannah Casarino scored the lone goal for WDT in the 61st minute.

Shirley's FC 1 6, Shirley's FC 2 1

Shirley's 1 defeated sister team 2, 6-1.

Sernante Jimenez and Fradel Sedillo scored two goals each while Taba Seth and Dhiraj Chhetri scored one each.

The lone goal from team 2 was made by Christian Buno in the 60th minute.

Chang Bai Hu 5, MPU FC 0

Chang Bai Hu shut down MPU FC 5-0.

Zhiong Zhe Lin completed the three goal hat-trick, while Richeng Xian and Ensan Cui contributed one each.

Results of the youth league will be posted in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

JALEN

From Page 20

ready fatigued at this point from the first climb but it is a good thing there was no wind or else it would make it much harder."

Despite the elevation challenges, the University of Hawaii at Manoa alumnus said overall it was a great day to run.

"It was cold and there was a little bit of wind. Halfway through, the sun came out and toward the end there was a light shower of rain. The course was kinda similar to the full marathon one and so I was familiar with the route. There were about 8,000 participants and it was fun running with all of them."

Lucido said he trained for The Hapalua by starting off with weekly mileage goals. He then graduated to running 30 miles per week dating back to the second week of January.

"Daily workouts consisted of speed runs, easy runs, and long runs. I would do this for three weeks straight and then a de-load week on the fourth week. The following week I would increase my weekly mileage adding five more to the current one. Then workouts would be the same but my long runs would slightly increase," he said.

Lucido thanked the usual suspects—family and friends—for helping him in his latest run endeavor.

"First and foremost, I am dedicating this to God. He always keeps me safe while I am training. To my family, friends, my Run Saipan family, and special shoutout to my coach Edward Dela Cruz Jr."

With The Hapalua clearly on the rearview mirror, Lucido now trains his sights on his third Honolulu Marathon, where he set the aforementioned goal of completing it in

under 4 hours.

"I am going to be recovering my body and take it a little bit slow with running. I'll make sure everything is fully recovered so that I can start another training for the full marathon that is happening in December and see if I can reach my goal which is a sub 4-hour marathon time."

Run Saipan Edward Dela Cruz Jr. said he's always proud when people he trained, coached, and mentored like Lucido go on to break their personal records.

"I'm very happy that he hit the sub 2-hour mark. Our next goal is for him to run under 1 hour and 45 minutes. It's really hard to train someone in running via long distance but his training has been vastly improving over the years. It's a testament to his discipline in Hawaii to stick with the program," he said.



Garland scores 32,
Cavs beat Knicks to
even series

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Peleliu slips past
Asahi, 2-1

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20 THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

AS MICHELOB ULTRA CUP STARTS

Save More, New Chang Ming in strong debuts



MARK RABAGO

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, officials of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation and Northern Marianas Sports Association, and other VIPs join the 12 teams taking part in the 2023 Michelob Ultra Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League during its opening last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



MARK RABAGO

Save More's Bryan Bernardo, left, and CK Saints' Justice Aldan jump at center court while Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang does the ceremonial toss for the start of the 2023 Michelob Ultra Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Save More and New Chang Ming Market posted impressive come-from-behind wins on the opening day of the 2023 Michelob Ultra Cup Men's Islandwide Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room.

Both teams actually trailed early and often and in the case of Save More, they were exorcized early and often by the CK Saints before rallying in the second half to pull off a 82-65 win.

CK Saints jumped the gun and led 24-16 after the first quarter and then added a

point to their lead, 42-31, at the break.

The halftime powwow, however, proved effective for Save More as they didn't waste time to catch up on the CK Saints and managed to trim their deficit to just 4 points, 53-49, entering the fourth and

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Shirley's, MP United bag wins in women's soccer

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Shirley's Football Club and MP United Football Club both bagged a win in Week 7 of the Flores-Péé Luwal Division of the 2023 Spring Dove Women's League at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Sunday.

Shirley's won 5-1 over Paire FC, while MPU FC snagged a goal for their 1-0 win against Southern United FC.

Jeraldine Castillo was the lone ranger as she took it upon herself to score all of Shirley's goals with

a barrage of goals in the second half.

Paire didn't even score a goal for themselves but it was Shirley's who made their own goal towards the end of the match. It didn't matter as Paire could not catch up and the time expired.

MP United's Jove Taman found the back of the net in the 21st minute as SUFC failed to retaliate and lost.

In the first game of the afternoon, Tan Holdings and Matansa ended the game in a scoreless draw.

Shirley's and SUFC are tied on top of the standings

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Jalen sets half marathon PB in The Hapalua



By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Run Saipan member Jalen Lucido is warming up for this year's Honolulu Marathon by taking part and completing Hawaii's largest half marathon, The Hapalua, in a personal best time last weekend.

Hapalua literally means "half" in the Hawaiian language.

Lucido completed the 13.1-mile run that started at Waikiki before going through Hono-

MARK RABAGO

Run Saipan member Jalen Lucido poses with his finisher's medal after completing The Hapalua in Hawaii last weekend.

lulu and up and around Diamond Head in a time of 1 hour and 55 minutes, which broke his goal of running it in under 2 hours.

Like all finishers, the 24-year-old multilingual teacher at Waialae Public Charter School was rewarded with a beautiful medal and freshly made malasadas and shaved ice at the finish line.

"I ran it because I wanted to see if I could reach my goal of finishing it in under 2 hours. I have been training for it since I did the full one (Honolulu Marathon) back in December. My coach said we will try

to get my full marathon time under 4 hours next time. I thought to myself that I would need to get my half marathon time under 2 hours for it to be possible," he said.

The son of Joey and Gemma Lucido of Chalan Kanoa said the hardest part of The Hapalua was certainly the elevation gain at miles 9 and 11.

"The start of Mile 9 runs along the Diamond Head, the climb I would say is about 1-1.5 miles long. It was never ending! Another would be around Mile 11 where there was a short elevation gain. My legs were al-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MP United Football Club's Soledad Quan is seen in this file photo of the Flores-Péé Luwal Division in the 2023 Spring Dove Women's League at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.